

Child Support Program Glossary ¹

Term	Definition	Acronym	Source	Cross Reference	Category	See Also
A Abstract of Support Judgment	A certified copy of any judgment or order of the superior court of this state for spousal, family or child support, when recorded with the recorder of any county, shall from the recording become a lien upon all real property of the judgment debtor, not exempt from execution, in the county, owned by him or her at the time, or which he or she may afterwards acquire for the respective amounts and installments as they mature.		DCSS Legal		Legal	Lien
Abstract of Title	A report, which is the result of a title search, performed by a title insurance company or attorney, which lists all of the liens that affect the ownership of real property, including child support liens.		DCSS Legal		Case Management	Title
Abuse	"Abuse" means any of the following : (a) Intentionally or recklessly to cause or attempt to cause bodily injury. (b) Sexual assault. (c) To place a person in reasonable apprehension of imminent serious bodily injury to that person or to another. (d) To engage in any behavior that has been or could be enjoined pursuant to Section 6320, Family Code. (e) Battering or subjecting a victim to extreme cruelty. (1) Physical acts that resulted in, or threatened to result in, physical injury. (2) Sexual abuse. (3) Sexual activity involving a child in the home. (4) Being forced to participate in nonconsensual sexual acts or activities. (5) Threats of, or attempts at, physical or sexual abuse. (6) Mental abuse. (7) Neglect or deprivation of medical care. (8) Stalking.		Title 22, Division 13, Section 112002		Case Intake	
Acceleration Clause	A provision or clause in a credit agreement that requires the obligor to pay part or all of the balance due sooner than the date specified for payment upon the occurrence of some event or circumstance described in the agreement. This clause applies to situations where there has been a default such as non-payment of principal or interest.		DCSS Legal		Legal	
Account	Record of financial transactions in a case, which includes a record of charges against a child support obligor for such things as current support, welfare arrears, spousal support, blood test fees, court costs, attorneys fees and interest. Also includes a record of payments by the obligor and adjustments to the financial record.		LCSA glossary		Financial	Payment Record
Account Audit	An examination of the account or accounts of a child support obligor to determine necessary adjustments and/or the balance owing.		LCSA glossary		Financial	

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A Accounting	1) The act of maintaining accounts; 2) Sometimes used to refer to the unit or team responsible for accepting and processing payments and maintaining account records.		LCSA glossary		Financial	Account
Accrual	Sum of child support payments that are due or overdue.		OCSE glossary		Financial	
Acknowledgment of Paternity	An admission that the child is one's own. Recognition of a parental relation, either by a written agreement, verbal declarations or statements, by the life, acts and conduct of the parties, or any other satisfactory evidence that the relation was recognized and admitted.		DCSS Legal		Legal	Declaration of Paternity, Voluntary Acknowledgment of Paternity
Acknowledgment of Satisfaction of Judgment	A legal document filed with the county recorder's office when a child support debt has been satisfied. Upon such recording, the lien created under the judgment that has been satisfied is extinguished as a matter of record.		CCP Section 697.400		Legal	
Action Transmittal	Document sent out as needed, which instructs State child support program on the actions they must take to comply with new and amended Federal laws. Has basis in Federal law and regulation.	AT	OCSE glossary		Interstate	
Address of Record	A current, accurate mailing address, filed with the court, for receiving service of pleadings.		DCSS Legal		General	
Adjudication	The entry of judgment, decree, or order by a judge or other decision-maker such as a master, referee, or hearing officer based on the evidence submitted by the parties.		OCSE glossary		Legal	Disposition
Administration for Children and Families	The Federal Agency in the Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS) that administers the Child Support Program nationally and houses the Office of Child Support Enforcement (OCSE)	ACF	OCSE glossary		General	
Administrative Law Judge	A person designated by the Director to conduct child support state hearings, and who shall have been admitted to practice law in California, and shall possess such other qualifications as prescribed by the California State Personnel Board.	ALJ	Title 22, Division 13, Section 120001		Customer Service	
Administrative Procedure	Method by which support orders are made and enforced by an executive agency rather than by courts and judges.		OCSE glossary		Legal	
Administrative Review	A non-judicial examination of case records and accounts completed at the request of an obligor to raise an objection to the intercept of tax refunds or a non-judicial review of case records completed at the request of an obligor(ee) to determine the amount of arrearages owed.		LCSA glossary		Financial	

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A Adoption	The permanent legal assumption of all parental rights and responsibilities for a child.		DCSS Policy Branch		Case Management	
AFDC	The former Aid To Families with Dependent Children public assistance program which was a federal program under Title IV-A of the Social Security Act, funded with federal, state, and county funds, and non-federal public assistance program funded with state and county funds.		Title 22, Division 13, Section 119000 (Proposed)		General	Aid To Families with Dependent Children
Affiant	The person who makes and subscribes an affidavit. One who makes oath to a written statement.		DCSS Legal		Legal	
Affidavit	A sworn written statement made under oath or an affirmation before an authorized officer or agent.		LCSA glossary		Legal	
Affidavit in Support of Establishing Paternity	A sworn statement by a natural parent outlining facts regarding the natural or biological father of a child for the purpose of establishing paternity.		OMB 0970-0085		Legal	Biological Father; Affidavit.
Agent for Service of Process	A person, persons or organization who has been designated with the authority to receive service on behalf of an organization or corporation.		DCSS Legal		Case Management	Service of Process
Aid	Assistance payments made to any eligible child, in a specified amount and administered in a manner as to achieve the greatest possible reduction of dependency and to promote the rehabilitation of recipients. Examples include: TANF, CalWORKs, Medi-Cal or Foster Care assistance.		W&I 11207		Case Management	Public Assistance, Welfare
Aid Codes	A group of codes to describe various functions and factors within an aid type.		LCSA glossary		Case Management	Aid Types
Aid to Families with Dependent Children	Former entitlement program that made public assistance payments on behalf of children who did not have the financial support of one of their parents by reason of death, disability, or continued absence from the home, based on need to the recipient; known in many States as ADC (Aid to Dependent Children). Replaced with Temporary Aid to Needy Families (TANF) under the Personal Responsibility and Work Opportunity Reconciliation Act (PRWORA).	AFDC	OCSE glossary		General	Personal Responsibility and Work Opportunity Reconciliation Act, Temporary Assistance to Needy Families
Aid Types	A specific county welfare code, typically two digits, that indicates the type of assistance being provided to the family. Example: CalWORKs ALL FAMILIES: Aid Type 30		LCSA glossary		Case Management	Aid Codes

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A Alaska Permanent Fund and Dividend Match	The Permanent Fund Dividend (PFD) was established through a Constitutional amendment approved by Alaska voters in 1976 which functions under the belief that all qualifying Alaskans benefit equally from the States oil wealth. This allows an annual reimbursement to families by the government. The Alaska Permanent Fund Dividend Match allows other states to identify delinquent child support obligors entitled to reimbursement for the purpose of intercept of funds.		Title 24 of the Alaska Statutes		General	Intercept
Allegation	The assertion, declaration or statement of a party to a case, made in pleading, setting out what is expected to be proved.		LCSA glossary		General	
Alleged Father				Putative Father		
Allocation	The step in the distribution process pursuant to which a support payment is apportioned among several cases/children.		Title 22, Division 13, Section 119002 (Proposed)		Financial	Distribution
Allotment	An authorized limited amount payment; common to military personnel with families.		LCSA glossary		Financial	
Also Known As	Alias, moniker, other name or nickname.	AKA	LCSA glossary		General	
Alternate Arrangement	A written agreement approved by a court or tribunal between an obligee and obligor that provides for payment of a support obligation as ordered other than through the immediate service of an income withholding order, and that is signed by the local child support agency with jurisdiction over the case when: (a) Public assistance is being provided and there has been an assignment of support rights to the State. (b) No public assistance is being provided, but the local child support agency is providing Title IV-D services at the time the alternate arrangement is entered into.		Title 22, Division 13, Section 116004		Enforcement	
Amended Complaint	1) As used in the Legal Process: Subject to the limitations contained in the Code of Civil Procedure, the filing of a document titled an "Amended Summons and Complaint," in the same case as the original Summons and Complaint to correct data contained on the original complaint itself. 2) As used in the Complaint Resolution Process: A substantially modified complaint based on the complaint investigators discussion with the complainant and is documents on Local Complaint Resolution.		DCSS Legal & Policy		Customer Service	Complaint Resolution Process, Complaint

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A Amended Proposed Judgment	If the local child support agency receives additional financial information within 30 days of service of the complaint and proposed judgment on the defendant and the additional information would result in a support order that is different from the amount in the proposed judgment, the local child support agency shall file a declaration setting forth the additional information and an amended proposed judgment. The time for the defendant to answer is extended an additional 30 days.		DCSS Legal		Legal	Proposed Judgment
Answer	A responsive pleading by the defendant in a civil case that contests or admits the plaintiff's allegations of facts set forth in the complaint.		LCSA glossary		Legal	
Appearance	A coming into court as a party to a suit, either in person or by an attorney. The formal proceeding by which a defendant submits himself to the jurisdiction of the court.		DCSS Legal		Legal	
Applicant	An individual who submits an application for Title IV-D services.		Title 22, Division 13, Section 110041		General	Custodial Party, IV-D
Application	A written or electronic document provided by a local child support agency in which an individual requests support services and which is signed by the individual.		Title 22, Division 13, Section 110042		General	
Arraignment	In criminal law, the formal appearance of an accused person to hear, and to receive a copy of, the charge against him or her, in the presence of a judge, and to then enter a plea of guilty or not guilty.		DCSS Legal		Legal	Plea
Arrearage	The unpaid child support payments for past periods owed by a parent who is obligated to pay by court order. The arrears or arrearage or arrearages include interest and are adjusted for the amount of any partial satisfactions of the judgment.		Title 22, Division 13, Section 110046		Financial	
Arrears				Arrearage		
Asset Match	A computer match of child support obligor names and social security numbers against state tax records (Tax Information Profiles) of bank interest and dividends earned the previous year.		LCSA glossary		Case Management	
Assigned	The transfer of the right to support payments by an individual to the State as a condition of receiving public assistance.		Title 22, Division 13, Section 119004 (Proposed)		Financial	

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A Assigned Arrearages	Unpaid support that was due during past periods when public assistance was provided to the family or children of a child support obligor for which the right to receipt was assigned to the State as a condition of receiving assistance.		Title 22, Division 13, Section 119005 (Proposed)		Financial	
Assigned Collection	A collection of support which is used to recoup public assistance paid to an obligee.		Title 22, Division 13, Section 119006 (Proposed)		Financial	
Assignee of Record	The one who receives the right to collect the money when an Assignment of Judgment is signed. In child support cases this is the local child support (IV-D) agency.		LCSA glossary		General	
Assignment				Assigned		
Assignment of Support Rights	The legal procedure by which a person receiving public assistance agrees to turn over to the State any right to child support, including arrearages, paid by the non-custodial parent in exchange for receipt of a cash assistance grant and other benefits....		OCSE glossary		Case Management	
Assistance	Cash payments (CalWORKs) or medical services paid to a custodial party. Welfare. The amount of the grant is based upon need and the number of children in the family.		LCSA glossary		General	Public Assistance, Aid
Assistance Period	The period of time in which a person, family or group receives or is determined eligible to receive public assistance.		LCSA Glossary		General	
Assistance Unit	An individual or group of related persons living in the same home who have been determined eligible for public assistance.		Title 22, Division 13, Section 119008 (Proposed)		General	
Assistance Unit Payee	The designated person of the assistance unit receiving the cash assistance check. The person to whom a check for welfare is issued.		LCSA glossary		Case Management	
Attestation	The act of witnessing an instrument in writing at the request of the party making the instrument and recording that fact on the instrument.		LCSA glossary		Legal	
Attestation Statement	A sworn statement by an applicant for IV-D services that they have provided all known information about the non-custodial parent. The attestation statement prohibits non-cooperation of the applicant.		LCSA glossary		Legal	

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A Attorney of Record	An attorney who has filed a notice of appearance and who hence is formally mentioned in court records as the official attorney of the party.		DCSS Legal		General	Authorized Representative, Substitution of Attorney
Authorized Representative	An individual or a representative from an organization that has been authorized by a complainant to act on behalf of the complainant in any and all aspects of a state hearing.		Title 22, Division 13, Section 120002		Customer Service	
Automated Locate Source	Any locate source in which data is maintained in an automated fashion, regardless of how it is accessed, or how it is updated.		MPP 12-101.3(a)(6)		Case Management	
Automated Voice Response System	Telephone system that makes frequently requested information available to clients over touch-tone telephones.	AVR	OCSE glossary		General	
Automatic Stay	<p>Definition: Immediately upon the filing of a voluntary petition under the Bankruptcy Code, generally, creditors (including child support agencies) are prohibited from taking legal action against the debtor or the property of the estate to enforce the debt while the debtor is in bankruptcy.</p> <p>Note: There are exceptions and it is possible to request "relief from stay" from the court to proceed with certain actions. Establishments and modifications of child support are not subject to the Automatic Stay.</p>		US Code Title 11, Section 362		Bankruptcy	
B Bankruptcy	<p>The formal condition of an insolvent person being declared bankrupt under law. The legal effect is to divert most of the debtor's assets and debts to the administration of a third person, sometimes called a "trustee in bankruptcy", from which outstanding debts are paid pro rata.</p> <p>Chapter 7- A section of the bankruptcy code under which a debtor's property is liquidated to pay his or her creditors and a debtor can obtain a discharge of personal debts through the bankruptcy court. Spousal and child support obligations cannot be discharged in Chapter 7 proceedings.</p> <p>Chapter 11- A section of the bankruptcy code under which the "reorganization" of companies and businesses can be made in order to allow the business to work out a plan to repay all or some of their debts.</p> <p>Chapter 13- A section of the bankruptcy code under which a debtor works out a plan to repay their debts through the bankruptcy court.</p>		DCSS Legal		Legal	
Bankruptcy Code	The Bankruptcy Reform Act of 1978 (as amended and codified in Title 11 of the United States Code) which governs bankruptcy cases filed on or after October 1, 1979.		US Code Title 11		Bankruptcy	

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B Bankruptcy Plan	This term is used in Chapter 11 cases and is also referred to as a "plan of reorganization" It is a detailed plan of action formulated by a debtor or its creditor to govern the debtor's rehabilitation, continued operation or liquidation, and payment of debts. It sets forth a list of debts and timetables to repay the debts. The bankruptcy court and creditors must approve the plan before it is implemented.		US Code Title 11, Chapter 11, Subchapter II, Section 1123		Bankruptcy	Plan of Reorganization
Bankruptcy Schedule	Official forms used for listing the debtor's assets, liabilities, and all unsecured creditors. Note: This information is public record and may contain valuable information to assist in child support enforcement after the bankruptcy is completed.		Legal		Bankruptcy	
Bankruptcy Trustee	A third party, appointed by the bankruptcy court who administers and supervises the assets and debts of a person in bankruptcy.		DCSS Legal		Enforcement	Trustee
Barnes Notices	Stemming from Barnes v. Anderson et al, requires all custodial parties to receive monthly notices of the amount of support payments collected and/or distributed each month.		FC 17306, 17401.5; 45 CFR Sec. 302.54		Financial	
Bench Warrant	A warrant of arrest or attachment issued by a court for a defendant who has failed to appear in court as ordered.		DCSS Legal		Legal	
Bifurcate	To separate the issues in a case so that one issue or set of issues can be tried and resolved before the others. Bifurcation is authorized by Rule 42(b) of the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure.		www.nolo.com/law center/dictionary		Legal	
Billing Statement	The local child support agency notice sent to the child support obligor on a monthly basis outlining the amount of support owed. Reflects each account and balance with payment due date.		LCSA glossary		Financial	
Biological Father	The natural father of a child or children.		LCSA glossary			
Blood Test				Genetic Testing		
Blood Test Fees				Genetic Testing Costs		
Bond	A promise (usually guaranteed by a bond company) to perform an act or to follow the orders and judgments of the court.		LCSA glossary		Legal	

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B Buccal Swab	The painless, non-invasive DNA alternative to blood tests that account for more than 80% of samples collected in the determination of parentage.		Long Beach Genetics		Case Management	Genetic Testing
Burden of Proof	The duty of a party to produce the greater weight of evidence on a fact or facts in dispute on an issue raised between the parties in a cause.		DCSS Legal		Legal	
Bureau of Vital Statistics	Vital statistics are routinely collected through mandatory registration by states and then reported to the federal vital statistics system. In California, the Office of Vital Records is part of the Department of Health Services.		LCSA glossary		General	Office of Vital Records
Business Day	Any day that is not a Saturday, Sunday, or holiday as specified in Sections 6700 and 6701 of the Government Code.		Title 22, Division 13, Section 110088		General	
C California Central Registry				Central Registry		
California Child Support Automation System	The California automated statewide child support enforcement system, which will include a SDU, a SCR, and other databases and interfaces.	CCSAS	LCSA glossary		CCSAS	
California Code of Regulations	The California Code of Regulations contains the text of the regulations that have been formally adopted by state agencies, reviewed and approved by the Office of Administrative Law, and filed with the Secretary of State.	CCR	CCR Web site		General	Regulations
California Department of Child Support Services	That department created within the California Health and Human Services Agency, to administer all services and perform all functions necessary to locate parents; establish paternity; establish, enforce, and modify support orders; and collect and distribute support in California.	DCSS	FC 17200		General	Local Child Support Agency
California Franchise Tax Board	The income taxing authority in California that is designated as the project agency on behalf of DCSS to manage the development and creation of a single statewide California Child Support Automation System (CCSAS).	FTB	CCSAS Project Charter		General	
California Health and Human Services Agency	The California Health and Human Services Agency administers state and federal programs for health care, social services, public assistance, job training and rehabilitation. Responsibility for administering the major programs, which provide direct services to millions of Californians, is divided among the Health and Human Services Agency's 15 boards and departments.	CHHS	LCSA glossary		General	
California Law Enforcement Telecommunications System	The computerized system at the State Department of Justice, used to obtain law enforcement information about an individual, directly from state and national files.	CLETS	LCSA glossary		Case Management	

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C California Parent Locator Service	A unit within DCSS, that handles locate requests from the Federal Parent Locator Service (FPLS), other states' parent locator services and from local child support agencies. Also attempts to find the non-custodial parent's home and/or work addresses or assets by accessing the records of the following agencies: Employment Development Department, Franchise Tax Board, Department of Motor Vehicles, criminal justice agencies, public utilities and records of other state and local agencies.	CPLS	DCSS Legal		Case Management	Federal Parent Locator Service
California State Lottery Intercept				Intercept		
California Work Opportunity and Responsibility to Kids	The public assistance program that implements the requirements set forth in the federal act Personal Responsibility and Work Opportunity Reconciliation Act (PRWORA). Temporary Assistance to Needy Families (TANF), which replaced Aid to Families with Dependent Children (AFDC). Federally mandated changes in the new welfare program set time limits on cash assistance and include a requirement that recipients participate in a "Welfare to Work" plan. CalWORKs replaces all AFDC programs in California and is administered by the California Health and Human Services Agency (HHS).	CalWORKs	DCSS Legal		General	Personal Responsibility and Work Opportunity Reconciliation Act of 1996, Temporary Assistance to Needy Families
CalWORKs	The California Work Opportunity and Responsibility to Kids Act, the California program under the TANF program and may also be cited as the CalWORKs program.		Title 22, Division 13, Section 110097 (Proposed)		General	California Work Opportunity and Responsibility to Kids
CalWORKs Recipient	An individual who is receiving public assistance benefits under the California Work Opportunity and Responsibility to Kids (CalWORKs) program, including KinGAP, established pursuant to Welfare and Institutions Code, Chapter 2, commencing with Section 11200.		Title 22, Division 13, Section 110098		General	Custodial Party
Caretaker	A relative other than a parent or an unrelated person with whom a child lives, who may or may not be receiving aid.		DCSS Legal		Case Management	Custodial Party
Case	A non-custodial parent, whether mother, father, or alleged father, a custodial party, and a dependent child or children. The custodial party may be one of the child's parents, or other relative or caretaker including a foster parent. If both parents are absent and liable or potentially liable for the support of the child(ren), each parent is considered a separate case.		Title 22, Division 13, Section 110099		Case Management	
Case Aid Status	The classification based on whether the family is currently receiving public assistance, or formerly received public assistance, or never received public assistance.		Title 22, Division 13, Section 119011(Proposed)		Financial	

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C Case Closure	The Title IV-D services will no longer be provided. Case closure shall not affect a child support order or arrears that have accrued under the order.		Title 22, Division 13, Section 118020		Case Management	
Case Construct	The structure of a child support case which typically includes a non-custodial parent, a custodial party, and a child or children.		FSD Letter 99-04		Case Management	
Case ID	The unique identification number assigned to a case.		LCSA glossary		General	
Case Initiation	The first step in the child support enforcement process; opening the case.		LCSA glossary		Case Management	Intake
Case Law	The aggregate of reported cases as forming a body of jurisprudence, or the law of a particular subject as evidenced or formed by the adjudged cases, in distinction of statutes and other sources of law.		DCSS Legal		Legal	
Case Notes	The chronological case history of events that have occurred on a case.		LCSA glossary		Case Management	
Case Participant	A participant in a child support case; a participant can participate in more than one case and in different capacities.		LCSA glossary		Case Management	
Case Record	A file containing all information and documents pertaining to the case, including all relevant facts, dates, and actions taken related to the case, and all contacts made and the results of those contacts. The case record is the property of the local child support agency.		Title 22, Division 13, Section 110109		General	
Case Status	1) An open or closed child support case 2) A chronological history of a cases progression: Example: Paternity, Establishment, Locate, Enforcement.		LCSA glossary		Case Management	
Case Transfer	Each local child support agency shall transfer cases from one county to another when policy criteria are met. For Title IV-A cases, case ownership follows the custodial parent's place of residence. For non Title IV-A cases, case ownership resides in the county where the custodial party last opened a Title IV-D case. The transferring of a case involves reassignment of the case to the appropriate county, and the transfer of hard copy documents.		CSS Letter 02-18		Case Management	Duplicate Case, Duplicate Case Transfer Coordinator
Cash Concentration and Disbursement "Plus"	Standardized format used for electronic funds transmission (EFT) of child support withholdings from an employee's wages.	CCD+	OCSE glossary		General	Corporate Trade Exchange

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C Central Registry	A unit within each state responsible for receiving, screening, and distributing incoming interstate cases, and for responding to inquiries on incoming interstate cases.		Title 22, Division 13, Section 117017		Interstate	
Centralized Collection Unit				State Disbursement Unit		
Certified Copy	A copy of a document or record, signed and certified as a true copy by the officer to whose custody the original is entrusted. A certification is a written statement and signed which is by law made evidence of the truth of the facts stated for all or for certain purposes.		DCSS Legal		Legal	
Certified Mail Return Receipt	First Class mail that will not be delivered until someone at the address signs for it. Proof of delivery is returned to the sender by the post office. If the certified mail is marked "restricted delivery", it will only be delivered to the addressee (the person to whom it is addressed).		LCSA glossary		General	
Change of Payee				Substitution of Payee		
Change of Venue	The removal of an action begun in one county to another county for trial or hearing. A change may be permitted in the interests of justice or for the convenience of the parties. If both parents have moved from the county rendering the order, the court may, when the ends of justice and the convenience of the parties would be promoted, order the proceedings be transferred to the court of residence of either party.		DCSS Legal		Legal	
Child	A son or daughter of human parents, under the age of 18 or 19 if still enrolled in high school.		LCSA Glossary		General	
Child Abuse	"Child Abuse" means any of the following: (a) A physical injury which is inflicted by other than accidental means on a child by another person. (b) The sexual abuse of a child or any act or omission proscribed by Penal Code, Section 273(a). (c) The neglect of a child or abuse in out-of-home care, as defined in Section 11165.3, Penal Code. (d) The willful cruelty or unjustifiable punishment of a child, as defined in Section 11165.3, Penal Code. (e) The unlawful corporal punishment or injury of a child, as defined in Section 11165.4, Penal Code. (f) The emotional or mental abuse of a child.		Title 22, Division 13, Section 112015		Case Intake	Abuse
Child Care Expenses	Child care costs related to employment or to reasonably necessary education or training for employment skills.		FC 4062		Case Management	

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C Child Support	Amounts required to be paid under a judgment, decree, or order, whether temporary, final, or subject to modification, for the support and maintenance of a child or children, which provides for any or all of the following: monetary support, health insurance coverage, arrearages, and may include interest on delinquent child support obligations.		Title 22, Division 13, Section 110129		General	IV-D Case, IV-A Case, IV-E Case and Non IV-D Orders
Child Support Consumer Credit Reporting Notification	An initial notification to the non-custodial parent that the local child support agency intends to report his/her account information to a credit reporting agency.		FC 4701		Case Management	Consumer Credit Protection Act, Credit Reporting Agencies
Child Support Enforcement Agency	The agency in every state that administers the IV-D program in that state, including locating parents, establishing paternity, establishing, enforcing, and modifying child support orders, and collecting and distributing child support money.		DCSS Legal		General	IV-D Agency, Local Child Support Agency (LCSA)
Child Support Enforcement Network	State-to-state telecommunications network, which transfers detailed information between States' automated child support enforcement systems.	CSENet	LCSA glossary		General	
Child Support Judgment				Child Support Order		
Child Support Order	Any court or administrative order for the payment of a set or determinable amount of support of a child by a parent, or a court order requiring a parent to provide for health insurance coverage for a child, or a court order requiring a parent to make payment of arrearages. "Child support order" includes any court order for spousal support or for medical support to the extent these obligations are to be enforced by a single state agency for child support under Title IV-D of the federal Social Security Act (commencing with section 651 to Title 42 of the United States Code).		Title 22, Division 13, Section 110135		General	Child Support
Child Support Pass Through	Provision by which at least \$50 from a child support payment collected on behalf of a public assistance recipient is disbursed directly to the custodial party. The Personal Responsibility and Work Opportunity Reconciliation Act (PRWORA) of 1996 eliminated the pass-through effective October 1, 1996. Also known as Child Support "Disregard".		OCSE glossary		Financial	Disregard Payment
Child Support Program				Child Support Enforcement Agency		

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C Child Support Recovery Act	A federal crime for the willful failure to pay a support obligation for a child who resides in another State or for the intentional evasion of a support obligation by traveling in interstate or foreign commerce, if the obligation remained unpaid for at least one year, or is greater than \$ 5,000.		DCSS Legal		Legal	
Citation	An order of a court to either do a certain thing or to appear before it to answer charges. The citation is typically used for lesser offenses (such as traffic violations) because it relies on the good faith of the defendant to appear as requested, as opposed to an arrest or bail. The penalty for failing to obey a citation is often a warrant for the arrest of the defendant.		Duhaime's Law Dictionary		Legal	
Citation for Contempt				Contempt		
Cite	To summon; to command the presence of a person; to notify a person of legal proceedings against him and require his appearance thereto.		DCSS Legal		Legal	Citation
Civil Contempt	A type of contempt of court which arises from a willful failure to comply with a court order. A civil contempt proceeding is coercive or remedial in nature. Punishment may be imposed in the form of a fine or imprisonment to compel the contempt or to comply with the court's order. Note: While this civil remedy is sometimes used to enforce a child support debt, this tool may be prohibited by the filing of a Bankruptcy. Relief from the Automatic Stay is needed.		CA Code of Civil Procedure, Section 1209.5		Legal	
Claim of Exemption	The legal procedure for a party claiming an exemption after a levy is set forth to prevent exempt property from being seized. The party may do so by filing a claim and a copy with the levying officer within 10 days after a notice of levy on the property is served on the judgment debtor.		DCSS Legal		Legal	
Clerk of the Court				Court Clerk		
Client	A term often used to refer to the recipient of a TANF grant or IV-D services.		OCSE glossary		General	Customer
Code of Federal Regulations	A codification of the general and permanent rules published in the Federal Register by the Executive departments and agencies of the Federal Government.	CFR	45 CFR, Chapter III		General	Regulations
Cohabitation	The fact or state of living together, esp. as partners in life, usually with the suggestion of sexual relations.		Black's Law Dictionary		General	

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Child Support Program Glossary ¹

Term	Definition	Acronym	Source	Cross Reference	Category	See Also
C Collection	A support payment received from an obligor or from any source on behalf of the obligor.		Title 22, Division 13, Section 119013 (Proposed)		Financial	
Co-locate	Child support program staff "out-stationed" or located at the local county welfare office or other site offices to perform certain child support functions.		LCSA glossary		General	
Commissioner	A person appointed by the Superior Court to act as a temporary judge to hear all Title IV-D child support cases, unless an objection is made by a party.		DCSS Legal		Legal	
Common Law	A body of law developed from judicial decisions or custom rather than legislative enactment.		OCSE glossary		Legal	
Community Based Organization	Private, public and non-profit organizations with whom the local child support agency can develop partnership in order to provide extensive and substantial contact with the community. Can include faith-based agencies.		LCSA glossary		General	
Complainant	A custodial party or non-custodial parent who has made a complaint to a local child support agency or requested a state hearing.		Title 22, Division 13, Section 110147		Legal	
Complaint	The complainant's oral or written statement of an unresolved dispute and a request for resolution regarding any action or inaction of a local child support agency, or the Franchise Tax Board, concerning his/her child support case.		Title 22, Division 13, Section 110148		Legal	Complainant
Complaint Coordinator				Complaint Investigator		
Complaint Investigator	The person assigned by the Local Child Support Agency (LCSA) to investigate the complaint as specified in the Complaint Resolution Process. The Complaint Investigator shall not be the individual whose action or inaction is the subject of a complaint, or an Ombudsperson.		Title 22, Division 13, Section 120103(a)		Customer Service	Ombudsperson, Complaint Resolution Process

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Child Support Program Glossary ¹

Term	Definition	Acronym	Source	Cross Reference	Category	See Also
C Complaint Receipt Date	The date when a local child support agency initially receives a complaint from a complainant, or receives a transferred complaint from another county. (a) A written complaint shall be deemed to be received in one of the following ways: (1) If mailed, five (5) business days from the date the request is postmarked. If the postmark is illegible, the date the request is received and date stamped by a local child support agency. (2) If hand delivered, the date the request is received and date stamped by a local child support agency. (b) An oral complaint shall be deemed to be received as of the date a complainant speaks to a local child support agency representative, asks to file a complaint, and provides the information that is the basis of a complaint to a local child support agency.		Title 22, Division 13, Section 120003		Customer Service	
Complaint Resolution Process	The actions required by the local child support agency to resolve complaints as specified in Chapter 10, Article 2.		Title 22, Division 13, Section 110150		Customer Service	Complaint
Complaint Transfer	The process for forwarding a request for complaint resolution to the appropriate county with jurisdiction.		DCSS Policy Branch		Customer Service	Transfer of Complaint
Compliance	Compliance within the Child Support Program context refers to Local Child Support Agencies (LCSAs) adhering to and/or meeting State and Federal mandated requirements. These requirements govern identified actions LCSAs must take and set specific timeframes for those various actions when managing child support cases. Adherence to these requirements is generally expressed in terms of the quantity or quality of effort, required timeframe, and/or other mandatory measurable expectation and is monitored by the California Department of Child Support Services (DCSS) and by the federal Office of Child Support Enforcement. The results of the compliance monitoring are used as one factor in determining a state's child support funding allocation. The sum and substance of state and federal regulations and requirements governing the child support program. Marginal compliance is the term that represents a 75% to 80% finding in areas reviewed; Substantial compliance is a term that represents a finding of 80% or greater in all areas of review with the exception of case closure which is 90%.		Vic Rea, FC 17702; 45 CFR 308		General	Performance Measures, Non-Compliance
Compliance Review	The review and determination of child support procedures, policies and fiscal records to ensure compliance with State and Federal regulations.		FC 17702, 45 CFR 308, LCSA glossary		General	

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Child Support Program Glossary ¹

Term	Definition	Acronym	Source	Cross Reference	Category	See Also
C Compromise and Release	Option an injured worker may have to settle their claim with one lump sum payment. If the claim is settled by way of Compromise and Release, they will receive one lump sum payment that covers all medical, disability and income issues. The Workers Compensation Insurance Company and the employer are then completely released from future liability.		CCR, Title 8, Sec 10878		General	
Compromise of Assigned Arrearages	An agreement to reduce arrearages, including interest, owed to the state in cases where separation or desertion of both parents from a child resulted in aid being granted for the child in the form of Aid to Families with Dependent Children-Foster Care (AFDC-FC) payments or California Work Opportunity and Responsibility to Kids Act (CalWORKS) payments inclusive of payments for Kinship Guardianship Assistance Payment Program (KinGAP).		Title 22, Division 13, Section 119015		Financial	
Conclusive Presumption of Paternity				Presumption of Paternity		
Conditionally Assigned Arrearages	Arrearages that were temporarily assigned while a family received public assistance, but the temporary assignment has ended because the family is no longer receiving public assistance.		Title 22, Division 13, Section 119017 (Proposed)		Financial	
Confidential Information	Information maintained by child support enforcement agencies that is exempt from disclosure under provisions of the California Public Records Acts, the Family Code, or other applicable state or federal laws.		DCSS Legal		General	
Confidential Paternity Questionnaire	A questionnaire which is used to ask the custodial party questions in order to establish paternity. Differs from the Affidavit in Support of Establishing Paternity in that this document is not always sworn to or filed with the court.		LCSA glossary			Affidavit in Support of Establishing Paternity
Conflict of Interest	A real or seeming incompatibility between one's private interests and one's public or fiduciary duties.		Black's Law Dictionary		General	
Conformed Copy	An exact copy of a document bearing written explanations of things that were not or could not be copied, such as a note on the document indicating that it was signed by a person whose signature appears on the original.		Black's Law Dictionary		Legal	
Connect: Direct	Computer network maintained by the Social Security Administration that moves large volumes of data between computer systems at State agencies, the National Directory of New Hires (NDNH), and the Federal Case Registry (FCR). Formally known as Network Data Mover (NDM).	C:D	OCSE glossary		General	

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Child Support Program Glossary ¹

Term	Definition	Acronym	Source	Cross Reference	Category	See Also
C Consent Agreement				Paternity Opportunity Program		
Consolidate	Civil procedure: to combine, through court order, two or more actions involving the same parties or issues into a single action ending in a single judgment or, sometimes in separate judgments.		Black's Law Dictionary		Legal	
Consortium	In relation to child support, two or more temporary alliances engaged in the common business practice of enforcement of support pending implementation of the California Child Support Automated System (CCSAS).		LCSA glossary		General	
Consumer Credit Agencies	Private agencies that a State can use to locate obligors to establish and enforce child support.	CCA	OCSE glossary		General	
Consumer Credit Protection Act	Federal law that limits the amount that may be withheld from earnings to satisfy child support obligations. States are allowed to set their own limits provided they do not exceed the Federal limits. Regardless of the number of withholding orders that have been served, the maximum that may be withheld for child support is: Without arrearage 50% with a second family, 60% Single; With Arrearage 55% with a second family and 12 plus weeks in arrears; 65% Single 12 plus weeks in arrears.	CCPA	OCSE glossary		General	
Consumer Dispute Verification	Notice sent to a local child support agency by the credit reporting agency when a non-custodial parent has disputed the reporting of information on their child support account.		LCSA glossary		General	
Contempt	A willful disobedience of a valid court order.		LCSA glossary		Legal	
Contingency Fund	A fund used by the local child support agency to pay for items immediately in cases where there will be a later reimbursement to fund from another source.		LCSA glossary		Financial	
Continuance	A postponement of a court hearing from one date to another.		LCSA glossary		Legal	
Continuing Exclusive Jurisdiction	The authority of a tribunal to modify a support order because at least one of the parties or the child who is the subject of the order remains a resident of the state issuing the order and written consent of the parties to confer continuing jurisdiction on another state has not been filed.	CEJ	Title 22, Division 13, Section 117019		Interstate	Uniform Interstate Family Support Act

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Child Support Program Glossary ¹

Term	Definition	Acronym	Source	Cross Reference	Category	See Also
C Controlling Order	The one support order issued in a judicial or administrative proceeding that governs the amount, duration, and other terms of a child support obligation prospectively. If multiple orders have been issued, only a tribunal can determine which order is the controlling order.		Title 22, Division 13, Section 117021		Interstate	
Controlling Order Determination				Controlling Order		
Cooperation	As a condition of TANF eligibility whereby the recipient is required to cooperate with the child support agency in identifying and locating the non-custodial parent, establishing paternity, and/or obtaining child support payments.		OCSE glossary		General	
Cooperative Agreement	The federal regulations that allow the state child support agencies to contract with local jurisdictions or private entities to provide specific child support enforcement services. The agreement sets out the responsibilities of each agency under the contractual relationship. This is the relationship established between the State of California and the local agencies that enforce the child support program.		LCSA glossary		General	Plan of Cooperation
Corporate Trade Exchange	Standardized format used for electronic funds transmission (EFT) of child support withholdings from employees' wages. This method is preferable when processing large volumes of transactions and PRWORA requires state automated child support enforcement systems to be capable of using this format as well as the Cash Concentration and Disbursement "Plus" format.	CTX	OCSE glossary		Financial	Cash Concentration and Disbursement "Plus"
Corrective Action Plan	A written plan submitted to a controlling entity upon a person's, group or county's failure to meet overall compliance requirements.		LCSA glossary		General	
Cost of Living Adjustment	The US Department of Labor's Bureau of Vital Statistics Consumer's Price Index (CPI), produces monthly data on changes in the prices paid by urban customers for a representative look at goods and services. Cost of living adjustments, sometimes referred to as COLA, increased wages in a systematic manner to keep income in line as best as possible with the costs of living.	COLA	LCSA glossary		General	
County	One of fifty-eight administrative subdivisions in the state of California.		Title 22, Division 13, Section 110164		General	

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Child Support Program Glossary ¹

Term	Definition	Acronym	Source	Cross Reference	Category	See Also
C County Auditor and/or Controller	The Auditor-Controller's Office provides a broad range of financial accounting and auditing services to all County Departments, agencies, and districts whose funds are kept in the County Treasury. Responsible for recording all receipts and disbursements of County monies such as child support and for maintaining budgetary control of various funds.		Gov Code 26880, 26900		General	
County Clerk	The elected official in each county who is responsible for, among other things, taking charge of and maintaining all documents and records filed with the Superior Court or a variation which may include Superior, Municipal and Juvenile Court functions. The County Clerk shall also act as clerk of the board of supervisors; elections official or other duties as required by the Elections Code and shall distribute marriage license information.		LCSA glossary, Govt. Code 26801-26810		General	
County Recorder	The County Recorder is a county official appointed to record and maintain property records (including deeds, mortgages and liens) and vital statistics records.		LCSA glossary		General	
County Welfare Department	The office in each county responsible for administering various public assistance programs under the direction of the California Department of Social Services.		LCSA glossary			
County Welfare Worker	A county worker providing social services in child welfare programs or a county worker determining eligibility for assistance programs.		Title 22, Division 13, Section 119019		General	Eligibility Worker, Social Worker
Court Case Number	The number assigned by the court to a court action.		LCSA glossary		General	
Court Clerk	Officer of the court who files pleadings, motions, judgments, etc., issues process and keeps records of court proceedings.		DCSS Legal		General	
Court Fees				Fees		
Court Order	A legally binding edict issued by a court of law. Issued by a magistrate, judge, or properly empowered administrative officer. A court order related to child support can dictate how often, how much, what kind of support a non-custodial parent is to pay, how long he or she is to pay it, and whether an employer must withhold support from their wages.		OCSE glossary		Legal	Child Support Judgment
Court Ordered Arrearages				Arrearage		

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Child Support Program Glossary ¹

Term	Definition	Acronym	Source	Cross Reference	Category	See Also
C CR 60	The California Parent Locator Service (CPLS) form by which a child support agency employee may obtain EDD records, UIB information, DIB information, property tax exemption information, FTB taxpayer information, DMV records, CII rap sheets, identification photographs, vital statistics from the Bureau of Vital Statistics and verification of social security benefits, SSI/SSP and veterans benefits.		LCSA glossary		Case Management	California Parent Locator Service
Credit Reporting Agencies	Any entity which regularly engages in the practice of assembling or evaluating consumer credit information or other information on consumers for the purpose of furnishing consumer reports to third parties.		Title 22, Division 13, Section 116018		Enforcement	Child Support Consumer Credit Reporting Notification
Criminal Identification and Information	A branch of the California Department of Justice which maintains criminal history records (rap sheets)	CII	LCSA glossary			
Cross Reference Case	A companion case involving a non-custodial parent or custodial party. Usually consisting of other children by either parent with a different mother or father.		LCSA glossary		Case Management	
CS 1257	The Federal Fiscal Monthly Data and Accounts Receivable Report		FC 17602		General	
CS 157	The Federal Fiscal year Annual Data and Accounts Receivable Report. Covers A) Case Inventory, B) Paternity Established, C) Services Required, D) Services Provided, E) Medical Support, F), Collections Due and Distributed, G) Staff, H), Program Expenditures, I) Non-coop and Good Cause and J) Administrative Enforcement.		FC 17602		General	
CS 34	Monthly report of Collections and Distributions replacing CS 800, 803 and 820		FC 17602		General	
CS 35	Supplemental to Monthly Report of Collection and Distributions.		FC 17602		General	
CS 457	The Federal Fiscal Quarterly Data and accounts receivable report.		FC 17602		General	
Current Assistance Case	A case in which an obligee or child is currently receiving public assistance and Title IV-D services from a local child support agency.		Title 22, Division 13, Section 119021 (Proposed)		Financial	
Current Support Payment	Support collected pursuant to a court-ordered current support obligation and any voluntary payments for the month.		Title 22, Division 13, Section 119023 (Proposed)		Financial	Child Support, Family Support, Medical Support, Spousal Support
Custodial Parent				Custodial Party		

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Child Support Program Glossary ¹

Term	Definition	Acronym	Source	Cross Reference	Category	See Also
C Custodial Party	The person having primary care, custody and control over the child(ren) and who is/are receiving or has applied to receive services under Title IV-D of the Federal Social Security Act (commencing with Section 651 of Title 42 of the United States Code).	CP	Title 22, Division 13, Section 110182		General	Obligee
Custody	Means the charge and control of a child including the right to make all major decisions such as education, religious upbringing, training, health and welfare.		DCSS Legal		General	Custodial party
Custody Determination	Judgment, decree or order of a court providing for the custody of a child.		Title 22, Division 13, Section 110184		General	
Custody Order				Custody Determination		
Customer	Custodial parties, non-custodial parents, employers, and the public who make inquiries or raise questions about child support services.		Title 22, Division 13, Section 110186		General	
Customer Service Support Center	The term that identifies the proposed statewide call center stemming from the Department of Child Support Services' commitment to providing excellent customer service.	CSSC	AB 150		General	
CW 2.1(Q)	Form known as a Child Support Questionnaire or Absent Parent Questionnaire. It is required by the county welfare department to be completed by the CalWORKs recipient prior to aid being granted. The information requested includes the non-custodial parent's location, employment, description, assets, court order information, child support payment information, child(ren)'s name, social security number and date of birth of the non-custodial parent.		LCSA glossary		Case Management	Assignment of Support Rights
CW 371	Transmittal used for communication between the local county welfare department and the local child support agency which provides child support information.		LCSA glossary		Case Management	
D Data Element	A computer term used to designate a group of one or more data characters forming one fact.		LCSA glossary		General	
Date of Birth	The date a person was born.	DOB				
Date of Collection	The date for determining entitlement to a support payment received by a local child support agency, as specified in Section 119079.		Title 22, Division 13, Section 119026 (Proposed)		Financial	

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D Date of Emancipation	The date of independence of children from their parents due to age or circumstances. This includes a person who reaches the age of 18 and children who have not yet reached the age of 18 but have entered into a valid marriage, is on active duty with the armed forces of the United States, or has received a declaration of emancipation.		DCSS Legal		Legal	
Date of Injury	In a workers compensation claim, this is the date an employee/worker was injured.	DOI	LCSA glossary		Case Management	
Date of Receipt	The date a local child support agency receives a support payment.		Title 22, Division 13, Section 119028 (Proposed)		Financial	
Day	This means calendar day unless otherwise specified.		Title 22, Division, 13, Section 110194		General	
Dear Colleague Letter	OCSE acronym only	DCL	OCSE glossary		Case Management	
Declaration of Paternity	A document signed by both parents stating that they are a child's parents. Filing this document with the State establishes the man as the child's legal father.		LCSA glossary		Case Management	Acknowledgment of Paternity, Voluntary Acknowledgement of Paternity
Decree	The judicial decision of a litigated action, usually in "equitable" cases such as divorce (as opposed to cases in law in which judgments are entered).		OCSE Glossary		Legal	Judgment
Default	The failure of a defendant to file an answer or appear in a civil case within the prescribed time after having been properly served with a summons and complaint.		OCSE glossary		Legal	
Default Judgment	Judgment entered against a party who has failed to defend against a claim that has been brought by another party within 30 days of service thereof. When a party against whom a judgment is sought failed to answer or otherwise defend, that party is in default and a judgment by default may be entered either by the clerk or the court.		DCSS Legal		Legal	Default, Proposed Judgment
Defendant	The person against whom a civil or criminal proceeding is begun.		OCSE glossary		Legal	
Defense Finance and Accounting Services	The agency responsible for the payment of active duty and reserve military personnel.	DFAS	DFAS Web site		General	
Delinquent	As applies to child support obligations, the failure to pay a child support debt when due.		DCSS Legal		General	

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Term	Definition	Acronym	Source	Cross Reference	Category	See Also
D Demand Letter	A letter filed with the escrow company demanding that the Judgment Debtor (Defendant) against whom a Lien has been filed, pay a certain amount of money before a Release of Lien can be filed.		LCSA glossary		Case Management	Lien, Release of Lien, Satisfaction of Judgment
Department	This means the California Department of Child Support Services.		Title 22, Section 13, Section 110200		General	
Department of Health and Human Services	The Federal government's principal agency for protecting the health of all Americans and providing essential human services, especially for those who are least able to help themselves.	DHHS	LCSA glossary		General	
Dependency Hearing	A hearing held in juvenile court at which the court is asked to take custody of the child from the parents usually because of neglect, abuse, or inability of the parent(s) to care for the child. Dependency hearings are brought under Welfare and Institutions Code section 300. In some cases the child(ren) are allowed to return home under court supervision.		LCSA glossary		Legal	Juvenile Court, Foster Care, Placement
Dependent	A child who is under the care of someone else. Most children who are eligible to receive child support must be a dependent. The child ceases to be a dependent when they reach the "age of emancipation" as determined by State law, but depending on the State's provisions, may remain eligible for child support for a period after they are emancipated.		OCSE glossary		General	
DHS 6110	A Medical Insurance Form, for all public cases which is forwarded to the Department of Health Services, Third Party Liability Branch and contains health insurance coverage enrollment information for the minor child(ren).		Title 22, Division 13, Section 116114(d)&(e)		Case Management	
Direct Income Withholding	An income withholding order that has been issued in one state and sent to an employer in another state without filing a petition or comparable pleading, or registering the order with the tribunal in the other state.		Title 22, Division 13, Section 117025		Interstate	Income Withholding
Direct Payment	A support payment which was sent directly to the obligee rather than to a local child support agency.		Title 22, Division 13, Section 119030 (Proposed)		Financial	
Director	This means the Director of the California Department of Child Support Services.		Title 22, Division 13, Section 110220		General	

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Term	Definition	Acronym	Source	Cross Reference	Category	See Also
D Disability Insurance Benefit	Benefits paid to an employee who becomes disabled and who is participating in the State Disability Insurance (SDI) Program through payroll deductions. These benefits are subject to wage assignment and are paid through the EDD office.		LCSA glossary		General	
Disability Insurance Benefit Intercept				Intercept		
Disbursed	The dispensing or paying out, of a collection.		Title 22, Division 13, Section 110224		Financial	
Disbursement				Disbursed		
Discharge	With regard to a bankruptcy proceeding, the release of a debtor from all of his debts which are provable in bankruptcy, except such as are excepted by the Bankruptcy Code. Child support obligations are not dischargeable in bankruptcy, although the bankruptcy may affect the manner in which these obligations can be collected.		DCSS Legal		Legal	Bankruptcy
Disclosure Prohibited Notice	A notice that the Federal Case Registry (FCR) is required to send to a party that has requested locate information stating that the information cannot be disclosed because the person whose information is being sought has a family violence indicator (FVI) on either a IV-D case or a non IV-D order in the FCR.		OCSE glossary		Case Management	Family Violence Indicator, Non-Disclosure Order
Dismissal	The act of voluntarily terminating a lawsuit, a cause of action or motion by one of the parties or a judge's ruling that a lawsuit is terminated.		DCSS Legal		Legal	With Prejudice, Without Prejudice
Disposable Earnings	The income that is subject to withholding left after making mandatory deductions for taxes including State, federal, local, Social Security, Medicare taxes and union dues, along with deductions for disability insurance and payments to public employees' retirement systems, provided that the deductions are required as a condition of employment.		Title 22, Division 13, Section 110226		General	
Disposition	The court's decision of what should be done about a dispute that has been brought to its attention. For instance, the disposition of the court may be that child support is ordered or an obligation is modified.		OCSE glossary		Legal	Adjudication
Disregard	Up to the first \$50.00 of a current support collection that is sent to an obligee on behalf of a current assistance case receiving TANF/CalWORKS/KinGAP benefits.		Title 22, Division 13, Section 119032 (Proposed)		Financial	Child Support Pass Through

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Term	Definition	Acronym	Source	Cross Reference	Category	See Also
D Dissolution	A judgment ending a marriage which may or may not include provisions for child support, division of property, etc.		LCSA glossary		Legal	
Distributed	The application of monies to specific accounts to determine the appropriate disbursement of monies.		Title 22, Division 13, Section 110230		Financial	
Distribution				Distributed		
Divorce	A common name for a marriage that is legally dissolved.		LCSA glossary		General	Dissolution
DNA Test				Genetic Testing		
Doing Business As	OCSE acronym only	DBA				
Domestic Violence	"Domestic Violence" means abuse perpetrated against any of the following persons: (a) A spouse or former spouse. (b) A cohabitant or former cohabitant, as defined in Section 6209, Family Code. (c) A person with whom the individual who perpetrated the act of domestic violence is having or has had a dating or engagement relationship. (d) A person with whom the individual who perpetrated the act of domestic violence has had a child, where the presumption applies that the male parent is the father of the child of the female parent under the Uniform Parentage Act (Part 3 of Division 12 commencing with Section 7600) of the Family Code. (e) A child of a party or a child who is the subject of an action under the Uniform Parentage Act, where the presumption applies that the male parent is the father of the child to be protected. (f) Any other person related by blood or marriage, such as grandparents, parents, aunts, uncles, and children.		Title 22, Division 13, Section 112025		Case Intake	Abuse, Child Abuse
Domestic Violence Questionnaire	A form (CSS 2142) requiring completion and submission to the local child support agency by the custodial party or non-custodial parent if one of them believe that the release of identifying information about him/her to the federal government could result in physical or emotional harm to the party/parent(s), or to the children of the party/parent(s).		Title 22, Division 13, Section 112300		General	Domestic Violence
Driver's License Number	The number assigned to an individual when he or she is successful in passing the driving examinations that are given by the Department of Motor Vehicles.		LCSA glossary		General	

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Term	Definition	Acronym	Source	Cross Reference	Category	See Also
D Due Process	The conduct of legal proceedings according to those rules and principles which have been established in our system of law for the enforcement and protection of private rights. Its most essential elements are a court with proper jurisdiction over the subject matter and the defendant, notice to each party, the opportunity for each party to present evidence and to challenge the opposing party's evidence, orderly procedures, and a neutral and unbiased trier of fact determines the facts and decides the issues only on the basis of the persuasiveness of relevant evidence properly admitted. Due process is a safeguard against unreasonable, arbitrary, and capricious decisions.		LCSA glossary		Legal	
Duplicate Case	A situation in which there is more than one case open in the State of California involving the same case participants.		LCSA glossary		Case Management	Case Transfer, Duplicate Case Transfer Coordinator
Duplicate Case Transfer Coordinator	The individual in each local child support agency designated as the single point of contact for case transfers.		LCSA glossary		Case Management	
E Earnings	"Earnings" means any of the following to the extent that they are subject to an income withholding order for support: a) Wages, salary, bonuses, vacation pay, retirement pay, and commissions. b) Payments for services of independent contractors, dividends, rents, royalties, residuals, patent rights or mineral or other natural resource rights. c) Payments or credits due or becoming due as a result of a written or oral contract for services or sales whether denominated as wages, salary, commission, bonus, or otherwise. d) Payments due for workers' compensation temporary disability benefits. e) Payments due from a disability or health insurance policy or program. f) Any other payments or credits due or becoming due, regardless of the source.		Title 22, Division 13, Section 110242		General	
Earnings Assignment				Order/Notice to Withhold Income for Child Support		
Earnings Withholding Order				Income Withholding Order		
Electronic Data Interchange	Process by which information regarding an Electronic Funds Transfer (EFT) transaction is transmitted electronically along with the EFT funds transfer.	EDI	OCSE glossary		Financial	

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Child Support Program Glossary ¹

Term	Definition	Acronym	Source	Cross Reference	Category	See Also
E Electronic Funds Transfer	Process by which money is transmitted electronically from one bank account to another.	EFT	OCSE glossary		Financial	Cash Concentration and Disbursement "Plus", Corporate Trade Exchange
Eligibility Worker	A case worker at the IV-A (human services) agency.	EW	LCSA glossary		General	Social Worker, Welfare Worker
Emancipation	A person who reaches his or her 18th birthday or the process by which a person under the age of 18 is declared independent of their parents. Any person under the age of 18 who comes within the following description is an emancipated minor: one who has entered into a valid marriage, whether or not such marriage was terminated by dissolution; or who is on active duty with any of the armed forces of the United States; or who has received a declaration of emancipation by the courts.		LCSA glossary		General	Date of Emancipation
Employer	This means all of the following: (a) A person for whom an individual performs services as an employee, as defined in Section 706.011, Code of Civil Procedure. (b) The United States government and any public entity as defined in Section 811.2, Government Code. (c) Any person or entity paying the following types of earnings: (1) Wages, salary, bonus, money and benefits described in Sections 704.110, 704.113 and 704.115 of the Code of Civil Procedure. (2) Payments due for services of independent contractors, interest, dividends, rents, royalties, residuals, patent rights, or mineral or other nature resource rights. (3) Payments or credits due or becoming due as a result of written or oral contracts for services or sales whether denominated as wages, salary, commission, bonus, or otherwise. (4) Payments due for workers' compensation temporary disability benefits. (5) Payments due as a result of disability from benefits described in Section 704.130 of the Code of Civil Procedure. (6) Any other payments or credits due or becoming due, regardless of source.		Title 22 Division 13, Section 110250		General	
Employer Identification Number					Federal Employer Identification Number	
Employment Retirement Income Security Act of 1974	The Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974 is a federal law that sets minimum standards for most voluntarily established pension and health plans in private industry to provide protection for individuals in these plans.	ERISA	www.dol.gov		General	

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Child Support Program Glossary ¹

Term	Definition	Acronym	Source	Cross Reference	Category	See Also
E Employment Verification	The process of confirming that a non-custodial parent is working for that particular employer. An employer letter is mailed requesting the information and verification.		CCDP Project		Case Management	
Employment-Related Group Health Insurance	Private group health insurance coverage provided through employment or membership in a union, trade association, or other organization.		Title 22, Division 13, Section 110251		Enforcement	Health Insurance Coverage
Endorsed Filed Copy	Stamped with the stamp of the agency in which the original document has been filed (the County Clerk's office, for example). The endorsement verifies that the original was, in fact, filed.		LCSA glossary		Legal	
Enforcement	Actions taken to obtain payment of a child, family, medical, or spousal support obligation contained in a child support order.		Title 22, Division 13, Section 110252		General	
Entry of Judgment	The formal entry of judgment on the rolls or records of the court, which is necessary before bringing an appeal or an action on the judgment. The entering of a judgment is a ministerial act performed by the clerk of the court by means of which permanent evidence of judicial act in rendering judgment is made a record of the court.		LCSA glossary		Legal	
Enumeration and Verification System	System used to verify and correct Social Security Numbers (SSNs), and identify multiple SSNs, of participants in child support cases. Operated by the Social Security Administration (SSA).	EVS	OCSE glossary		Case Management	
Escrow	A process wherein a party or entity, usually a title company, acts as a third party in a property transaction. The escrow officer transfers title to the property to the buyer only when certain payments have been made and other conditions set by the parties have been met. One of the conditions may be that the seller be able to transfer clear title to the buyer or lender.		LCSA glossary		General	
Establishment	The process of legally determining paternity and/or obtaining a court or administrative order to put a child support obligation in place.		Title 22, Division 13, Section 110261		General	
Estoppel	A equitable principle that provides that a party is prevented by his own acts from claiming a right to the detriment of the other party who is entitled to rely on such conduct and has acted accordingly. An individual is barred from denying or alleging a certain fact or state facts because of that individual's previous conduct, allegations or denial.		DCSS Legal		Legal	

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Child Support Program Glossary ¹

	Term	Definition	Acronym	Source	Cross Reference	Category	See Also
E	Ex Parte	The Latin phrase for "from one side only." A judicial proceeding, order, injunction where it is granted at the instance and for the benefit of one party only, and without notice to, or contestation by, any person adversely interested.		DCSS Legal		Legal	
	Excess	The amount of assigned support paid that exceeds the unreimbursed assistance pool.		Title 22, Division 13, Section 119035 (Proposed)		Financial	
	Exclusion	A term used to denote the exclusion of a putative parent as the result of a genetic test.		LCSA glossary		Case Management	Putative Father
	Executor	A person named in a will to carry out the will's directions and requests, usually under the supervision of the probate court. The executor's main responsibilities include taking care of the estate, paying the decedent's debts and estate taxes, and distributing the decedent's money and other property as directed by the will.		LCSA glossary		General	
	Exhibit	A document produced to a court during a trial or hearing as a voucher or in proof of facts and which upon being accepted, is marked for identification and made a part of the case.		DCSS Legal		Legal	
	Expedited Process	Accelerated administrative or judicial processing of a case.		MPP 12-01(e)(2) 12-109		Case Management	
	Extension of Time	An extension of the time for performing an act that is otherwise to be done within the time specified by the court rules.		DCSS Legal		Legal	
	External Customer				Customer		
	External Locate Source	A source of locate information that is outside the Child Support Enforcement (CSE) system.		DCSS Legal		Case Management	
F	Failure to Appear	OCSE acronym only	FTA				
	Fair Credit Reporting Act	The law lists the instances when a consumer reporting agency may furnish an individual's consumer report. (Public Law 91-508 Section 604. Permissible Purposes of Reports)		LCSA glossary		General	

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Child Support Program Glossary ¹

Term	Definition	Acronym	Source	Cross Reference	Category	See Also
F Fair Hearing	A hearing conducted by a hearing officer in the Health and Human Services Department which is requested by a welfare recipient when the recipient does not agree with a decision made by the county welfare department or the local child support agency affecting their eligibility. The purpose of the fair hearing is to take evidence and determine if a welfare recipient was correctly denied aid. One of the reasons for removing a welfare recipient from the CalWORKS program is the recipient's lack of cooperation with the local child support agency.		LCSA glossary		General	Cooperation, Non-Cooperation, Good Cause
Family Assistance Unit	A two digit code that represents the unit in which the participants have applied for, received, or are receiving public assistance.	FAU	LCSA glossary		General	
Family Budget Unit				Family Assistance Unit		
Family Law Facilitator	An adjunct to the court who is an attorney that provides educational services concerning the process of establishing or modifying support orders, completing forms, preparing income and expense forms, declarations of paternity, and support schedules based on statutory guidelines. There are Family Law Facilitators in each California County.		LCSA glossary		General	
Family Support	An agreement between the parents, or a court order or judgment, that combines child support and spousal support without designating the specific amount to be paid for each.		Title 22, Division 13, Section 119037 (Proposed)		General	
Family Support Act of 1988	Law passed in 1988, with two major mandates: Immediate Wage Withholding, unless courts find that there is good cause to not require such withholding, or there is a written agreement between both parties requiring an alternative arrangement; and Guidelines for Child Support Award Amounts, which requires States to use guidelines to determine the amount of support for each family, unless they are rebutted by a written finding that applying the guidelines would be inappropriate to the case.	FSA	OCSE glossary		Legal	
Family Violence	This means domestic violence as defined in Section 112025, or child abuse as defined in Section 112015.		Title 22, Division 13, Section 112034		Case Intake	Domestic Violence, Child Abuse, Abuse

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Child Support Program Glossary ¹

Term	Definition	Acronym	Source	Cross Reference	Category	See Also
F Family Violence Indicator	The designation of a party in a case or order by a state that indicates that party is associated with an act of child abuse or domestic violence. This indicator resides in the Federal Case Registry and is used to prevent disclosure of the location of a party and/or a child believed by a state to be at risk of family violence.	FVI	Title 22, Division 13, Section 112035		Case Intake	Disclosure Prohibited Notice, Non-Disclosure Order, Domestic Violence, Child Abuse, Abuse
Federal Case Registry	A national database of information on individuals in all Title IV-D cases, and on all non-Title IV-D orders entered or modified on or after October 1, 1998. The Federal Case Registry is part of the expanded Federal Parent Locator Service, which is maintained by the Federal Office of Child Support Enforcement.	FCR	Title 22, Division 13, Section 110284		General	
Federal Employer Identification Number	Unique nine-digit number assigned to all employers by the Internal Revenue Service (IRS), which must be used in numerous transactions, including submitting data and responding to requests relevant to child support.	FEIN	OCSE glossary		Case Management	
Federal Foster Care	The 24-hour out-of-home- care provided to children whose own families are unable or unwilling to care for them, and who are in need of temporary or long-term substitute parenting funded under Title IV-E with federal funds.		Title 22, Division 13, Section 110299		General	
Federal Income Tax Refund Offset Program				Federal Tax Refund Offset Program		
Federal Information Processing Standard Code	The five-digit code that identifies every state and county in the United States. The first two digits represent the state and the last three digits represent the county. Each jurisdiction in the United States and its territories has a unique "FIPS" code. This code is sometimes known as the "collection agency's standard code".	FIPS	OCSE glossary		Case Management	
Federal Parent Locator Service	A computerized national location network operated by the Federal Office of Child Support Enforcement (OCSE), within the Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS). FPLS obtains address and employer information, as well as data on child support cases in every State, compares them and returns matches to the appropriate States. FPLS includes the Federal Case Registry (FCR) and the National Directory of New Hires (NDNH).	FPLS	Title 22, Division 13, Section 110289		General	
Federal Performance Measures				Performance Measures		

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Child Support Program Glossary ¹

Term	Definition	Acronym	Source	Cross Reference	Category	See Also
F Federal Tax Refund Offset Program	Program that collects past due child support amounts from non-custodial parents through the interception of their Federal income tax refund, or an administrative payment, such as Federal retirement benefits. This program also incorporates the Passport Denial Program, which denies U.S. passports at the time of application when the applicant's child support debts exceed \$5,000. In the future, the program will expand to include the revocation and/or restriction of already issued passports. The cooperation of States in the submittal of cases for tax interception is mandatory, while submittal of cases for administrative interception is optional. The Federal Tax Refund Offset Program is operated in cooperation with the Internal Revenue Service, the U.S. Department of Treasury's Financial Management Service (FMS), the U.S. Department of State, and State Child Support Enforcement (CSE) Agencies.		OCSE glossary		Case Management	Intercept, Passport Denial Program
Fees	A fixed monetary charge for services rendered.		LCSA glossary		General	
Filed	A legal document received and accepted by the clerk of the court, or other official authorized to receive the document.		LCSA glossary		Legal	
Filed Date	The date that a document is filed.		LCSA glossary		Legal	
Final Decision	The final determination by the State DCSS Director or the Director's designee based on a proposed decision for all state hearings within 20 days from the date of the close of record.		Title 22, Division 13, Section 120217		Customer Service	
Financial Institution Data Match	An automated data match with financial institutions to identify assets belonging to an obligor who is delinquent in his/her support obligation.	FIDM	DCSS Legal		General	Multistate Financial Institution Data Match, Single State Financial Data Match
Financial Management	Financial Management is one of the six performance areas in the Quality Assurance and Performance Improvement (QAPI) Manual representing the work or essential business and business processes of California's child support program. It encompasses the functional areas of Obligation, Collection, Distribution, and Disbursement.		QAPI		Financial	
Financial Management Service	The agency within the federal Department of Treasury responsible for the federal tax refund offset and the administrative offset programs.	FMS	Title 22, Division 13, Section 119039 (Proposed)		Financial	

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Child Support Program Glossary ¹

Term	Definition	Acronym	Source	Cross Reference	Category	See Also
F Findings and Order After Hearing	A formal order prepared after a hearing on a motion or order to show cause, which includes a formal finding of facts.		LCSA glossary		Legal	
Fiscal Year	An accounting period of 12 months. Federal: October 1 through September 30. State: July 1 through June 30.	FY	DCSS Legal		General	
Foreign Order	An order issued by a tribunal of a jurisdiction outside of California.		Title 22, Division 13, Section 117030		Interstate	
Former Assistance Case	A case in which an obligee and/or child has formerly received public assistance and is currently receiving Title IV-D services from a local child support agency.		Title 22, Division 13, Section 119042 (Proposed)		Financial	
Foster Care	The 24 hour out-of-home care provided to children whose own families are unable or unwilling to care for them, and who are in need of temporary or long-term substitute parenting funded under Title IV-E with federal, state, and county funds.		Title 22, Division 13, Section 110299 (Proposed)		General	IV-E Case
Foster Care Placement	Placement of a dependent child of the court in a foster home after removal of the child from the home because of abuse, neglect or inability to care for the child.		LCSA glossary		Case Management	Dependency Hearing, Juvenile Court
Franchise Tax Board				California Franchise Tax Board		
Franchise Tax Board Bank Levy	To seize the money in a non-custodial parent's bank account, enforced by the Franchise Tax Board on behalf of the Local Child Support Agency.		LCSA glossary		Case Management	Levy
Franchise Tax Board Child Support Collections Program	The program whereby Local Child Support Agencies transfer case information on child support delinquencies to the Franchise Tax Board for collection in the same manner the Franchise Tax Board collects delinquent tax obligations.		Title 22, Division 13, Section 110306		General	California Franchise Tax Board
Franchise Tax Board Refund Intercept	A program in which claims for delinquent child support submitted by the Local Child Support Agency on an intercept list are deducted from a taxpayer's state income tax refund by the Franchise Tax Board and sent to the Local Child Support Agency.		LCSA glossary		General	Intercept
Franchise Tax Board Representative	The person sent by the Franchise Tax Board to any State hearing, if requested by a LCSA, to assist in resolving the complaint.		Title 22, Division 13, Section 120217		Customer Service	

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Term	Definition	Acronym	Source	Cross Reference	Category	See Also
F Fraud	A false representation of a present or past fact made by a party in which another party took action in reliance thereupon and damages (including parting with something valuable or surrendering a legal right) resulted to the relying party from the misrepresentation.		DCSS Legal		General	Welfare Fraud
Fraud Referral	A referral made to the county welfare department notifying the agency that welfare fraud is suspected.		LCSA glossary		General	Fraud, Welfare Fraud
Full Faith and Credit	Law under which a State must honor an order or judgment entered in another State.		OCSE glossary		Case Management	Full Faith and Credit for Child Support Orders Act
Full Faith and Credit for Child Support Orders Act	Law effective October 20, 1994, which requires States to enforce child support orders made by other States if: the issuing State's tribunal had subject matter jurisdiction to hear and resolve the matter and enter an order; the issuing State's tribunal had personal jurisdiction over the parties; and, reasonable notice and the opportunity to be heard was given to the parties. FFCCSOA also limits a State's ability to modify another States' child support orders in instances when: the State tribunal seeking to modify the order has jurisdiction to do so; and, the tribunal that originally issued the order no longer has continuing, exclusive jurisdiction over the order either because the child and the parties to the case are no longer residents of the issuing State, or the parties to the case have filed written consent to transfer continuing exclusive jurisdiction to the tribunal seeking to make the modification....	FFCCSOA	OCSE glossary		Interstate	
Full Package				CR 60		
Full Satisfaction of Judgment	A release of lien which is issued when the account is paid in full and all of the children have been emancipated, i.e., when there is no ongoing child support.		LCSA glossary		General	
Future Payment				Futures		
Futures	Collections received in a month that exceed both the current support obligation and the arrearages owed that are credited towards obligations that will become due in a future month.		Title 22, Division 13, Section 119043 (Proposed)		Financial	

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Term	Definition	Acronym	Source	Cross Reference	Category	See Also
G Garnishment	A legal proceeding under which part of a person's wages and/or assets is withheld for payment of a debt.		OCSE glossary		Legal	Income Withholding; Wage Withholding; Direct Income Withholding; Immediate Wage Withholding.
General Assistance	Aid to destitute adults provided through Social Services Department, funded totally by county tax dollars.		LCSA glossary		Case Management	
General Testimony	General Testimony is the title of the form OCSE-OMB-0970-0085-G. The General Testimony provides a framework for stating the detailed information and evidence necessary to support the action requested in the UIFSA petition.		OCSE-OMB-0970-0085		Interstate	Uniform Reciprocal Enforcement of Support Act.
Genetic Factors	Characteristics which are passed on to the child from the mother and father.		LCSA glossary		Case Management	Genetic Testing
Genetic Testing	Analysis of inherited factors to determine fatherhood or paternity		OCSE glossary		Case Management	
Good Cause	A determination that a Temporary Assistance to Needy Families (TANF) recipient is excused from cooperating with the child support enforcement process, such as past physical harm by the child's father. It also includes situations where rape or incest		OCSE glossary		Case Management	Temporary Assistance to Needy Families; IV-A Case
Grant	Monthly amount of cash assistance provided to a family receiving Temporary Assistance to Needy Families		LCSA glossary		Case Management	
Gross Monthly Income	Earnings before any mandatory deductions .		LCSA glossary		General	
Guardian	The legal guardian of the child, who assumed care and control of the child while the child was in the guardian's control, and who is not a biological or adoptive parent.		Title 22, Division 13, Section 119045		General	
Guardian ad Litem	A court-appointed adult who represents a minor child or legally incompetent person.		LCSA glossary		Legal	
Guideline Child Support				Guidelines		
Guidelines	A standard method for setting child support obligations based on the income of the person(s) and other factors determined by State law...		OCSE glossary		Case Management	

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Term	Definition	Acronym	Source	Cross Reference	Category	See Also
H Hardship	Circumstances that create extreme financial hardship for which the court may allow an income deduction such as extraordinary health expenses, uninsured catastrophic losses and living expenses of other natural or adopted children who reside with the parent		FC 4071		Case Management	
Health and Human Services Data Center	Provides cost-effective, large scale computer processing and telecommunications services to the departments within California Health and Human Services Agency (CHHSA).	HHSDC	LCSA glossary		General	
Health Care Provider	Person or business that make available services offered by the medical and allied health professions.		LCSA glossary		Case Management	
Health Insurance Coverage	The provisions for the delivery of both of the following: a) Health care services by a fee for service, health maintenance organization, preferred provider organization, or any other type of health care delivery system under which medical services could be provided to a dependent child of an obligor. B) Vision care and dental care services whether the vision care or dental care coverage is included in health insurance coverage or is issued as a separate policy or plan.		Title 22, Division 13, Section 110336		General	Medical Support
Health Insurance Coverage at a Reasonable Cost	Employment-related group health insurance or other group health insurance, regardless of the service delivery mechanism.		Title 22, Division 13, Section 110337		General	Employment-Related Group Health Insurance
Hearing	A proceeding of relative formality where definite issues of fact or law is tried, witnesses are heard and evidence is taken to determine issues of fact and to render a decision on the basis of that evidence.		DCSS Legal		Legal	
Hearing Date	The date of the state hearing which shall be deemed to include the period from the opening of the record to the close of the record, including any continuances that may have been granted.		Title 22, Division 13, Section 110341		General	
Home State	The state in which a child lived with a parent or a person acting as a parent for at least six consecutive months immediately preceding the time filing of a petition or comparable pleading for support, and if a child is less than six months old, the state in which the child lived from birth with a parent or person acting as a parent. A period of temporary absence of the child from the parent or person acting as the parent shall be counted as part of the six-month or other period.		Title 22, Division 13, Section 117036		Interstate	Uniform Interstate Family Support Act
HR Bills	Bills introduced in the U.S. House of Representatives begin with the letters "HR".		OCSE glossary		General	

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I Immediate Wage Withholding	An automatic deduction from income that starts as soon as the agreement for support is established.		OCSE glossary		Legal	Income Withholding; Wage Withholding; Direct Income Withholding
Improperly Withheld	Any support amount withheld by an employer which is greater than the amount specified in the income withholding order issued pursuant to Article 1, Subchapter 6.1, Section 116100.		Title 22, Division 13, Section 119047 (Proposed)		Financial	
Imputed Income	Fringe benefits provided to employees that may be taxable but which cannot be counted as additional disposable income that is subject to child support obligations.		OCSE glossary		Case Management	Disposable Income; Guidelines
In forma pauperis	Permission given by the court to a person to file a case without payment of the required court fees because the person cannot afford to pay them; from the Latin for "in the manner of a pauper."		www.courtinfo.ca.gov		Legal	Indigent
In propria persona	A case in which a party represents him or herself without an attorney; same as "in pro per", from the Latin for "in one's own proper person."		www.courtinfo.ca.gov		Legal	
Incentives	A percentage of collections paid by one political subdivision to another to reimburse the latter for their collection effort on behalf of the former. Used to fund the County's share of the program.		LCSA glossary		General	Program Improvement Plan
Inclusion Probability	The probability that a specific man is the biological father of the child upon genetic testing.		LCSA glossary		Case Management	Genetic Testing, Biological Father
Income	As defined by the Personal Responsibility and Work Opportunity Reconciliation Act of 1996 (PRWORA), income is any periodic form of payment to an individual, regardless of source, including wages, salaries, commissions, bonuses, worker's compensation, disability, pension, or retirement program payments and interest. All income (except imputed income) is subject to withholding for child support, pursuant to a child support order, but is protected by Consumer Credit Protection Act limits, both State and federal.		OCSE glossary		Case Management	Guidelines
Income and Eligibility Verification System	A system that allows the Child Support department to access information from EDD, FTB, and SSA on any individual requested by the department.		LCSA glossary		Case Management	
Income and Expense Declaration	A Judicial Council form used in Family Law proceedings to set forth and calculate a party's income and expenses.		LCSA glossary		Case Management	

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Term	Definition	Acronym	Source	Cross Reference	Category	See Also
I Income Tax Refund Offset Notice	Notice sent to non-custodial parent of possible interception of tax refund to be applied to past due arrearages of past due court ordered child support.		LCSA glossary		Case Management	Intercept
Income Withholding	A procedure by which automatic deductions are made from wages or income, as defined in the Personal Responsibility and Work Opportunity Reconciliation Act (PRWORA), to pay a debt such as child support...		OCSE glossary		Case Management	Wage Withholding; Direct Income Withholding; Immediate Wage Withholding
Income Withholding Order	A court order or administrative notice for income withholding, or legal process directed to an obligor's employer, or other debtor of the obligor, to withhold from the income of the obligor an amount owed for support. Any income withholding order or assignment order, or assignment order for support, or earnings assignment order, or wage assignment order issued by a local child support agency shall be issued on the federal form "Order/Notice to Withhold Income for Child Support", OMB Control No. 0970-0154 as adopted by the California Judicial Council.		Title 22, Division 13, Section 110355		General	Income withholding
Independent Contractor Registry	A database maintained by the Employment Development Department which contains information regarding independent contractors reported in California, as required in Section 1088.8, Unemployment Insurance Code.		Title 22, Division 13, Section 116036		Enforcement	
Indigent	Generally, this term defines a person who is poor, needy, and has no one to look to for support		www.courtinfo.ca.gov		General	
Individual Retirement Account	A savings account in which a person may deposit up to a stipulated amount each year with the deposits deductible from taxable income and both deposits and interest taxable after the person's retirement.	IRA	www.merriam-webster.com		Case Management	
Information Memorandum	Document that provides State child support enforcement agencies with information on program practices that can be useful to program improvement.		OCSE glossary		General	

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Term	Definition	Acronym	Source	Cross Reference	Category	See Also
I Initiating Jurisdiction	The State or county court, or administrative agency, which sends a request for action to another jurisdiction in interstate child support cases. The requested action can include a request for wage withholding or for review and adjustment of existing child support obligations. In cases where a State is trying to establish an initial child support order on behalf of a resident custodial parent, they do not have Long Arm Jurisdiction (i.e., they cannot legally claim personal jurisdiction over a person who is not a resident), they must file a Two-State action under the Uniform Interstate Family Support Act (UIFSA) guidelines.		OCSE glossary		Interstate	Long Arm Jurisdiction; Two-State Action; Uniform Interstate Family Support Act.
Initiating State	A state from which a proceeding is forwarded, or in which a proceeding is filed for forwarding, to a responding state.		Title 22, Division 13, Section 117047		Interstate	Uniform Interstate Family Support Act.
Initiating Tribunal	The court, administrative agency, or quasi-judicial entity in an initiating state authorized to establish, enforce, or modify support orders or to determine paternity.		Title 22, Division 13, Section 117049		Interstate	Uniform Interstate Family Support Act.
Injunctive Orders	A court order prohibiting someone from doing some specified act or commanding someone to undo some wrong or injury.		DCSS Legal		Legal	Temporary Restraining Order
Injured Spouse Claim	In cases where an NCP and present spouse file joint federal income tax returns, the present spouse may lodge a complaint with the IRS to get back his/her portion of the return that was intercepted by DCSS.		LCSA glossary		Enforcement	
Innocent Spouse Claim	Similar to an injured spouse claim, in California a spouse may file for "innocent spouse" relief by writing a letter to the Franchise Tax Board explaining why s/he should receive his/her portion of the State tax refund.		LCSA glossary		Enforcement	
Intact Family	A family group consisting of both parents living in the home with dependent child(ren).		LCSA glossary		Case Management	Temporary Assistance to Needy Families
Intake	The process of responding to a request for Child Support Services and seeking to obtain the best information possible to initiate the case and establish a case record.		CCDP Project		Case Management	
Integrated Data Base	The California State database created from the counties' data which is used to report cases for the tax intercepts', credit bureau reporting, license suspension, etc.		LCSA glossary		Case Management	
Integrated Voice Response		IVR		Automated Voice Response System		

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Child Support Program Glossary ¹

Term	Definition	Acronym	Source	Cross Reference	Category	See Also
I Intercept	A method of securing child support by taking a portion of non-wage payments made to a non-custodial parent. Non-wage payments subject to interception include Federal tax refunds, State tax refunds, unemployment benefits, lottery winnings, and disability benefits.		OCSE glossary		Case Management	Federal Tax Refund Offset Program
Intercounty Responding Case	A case in which the noncustodial parent and the custodial party live in different counties within California and the county in which the noncustodial parent resides receives and responds to a child support action for the purpose of enforcement.		Title 22, Division 13, Section 116038		Enforcement	
Interest	A rate of compensation for the use of forbearance of money, such as interest on a loan; a rate of compensation which must be paid by a judgment debtor. California allows the calculation of interest on unpaid child support order in dissolution of marriage case before the final decree is obtained.		LCSA glossary		Financial	
Internal Customer				Customer		
Internal Revenue Service	The federal agency which collects personal income tax.	IRS	LCSA glossary		Case Management	
Interstate Case	A case in which the dependent child(ren) and the custodial party or noncustodial parent live or have lived in different states and California is either the initiating or responding state, or the state which has issued the controlling order.		Title 22, Division 13		Interstate	Initiating State, Responding State, Uniform Interstate Family Support Act.
Interview	Each LCSA is required to conduct an interview with the custodial parent (or non-custodial parent if that parent is applying for IV-D services) within ten (10) business days of opening a case. The LCSA representative shall answer questions and provide information regarding the parent's rights and responsibilities, review forms completed by the parent, solicit information and re-interview if necessary.		Title 22, Division 13, Section 112140		Case Management	
Intracounty Case	A case in which only one county is providing Title IV-D services.		Title 22, Division 13, Section 116042		Enforcement	
Intrastate Case	A case in which the dependent child(ren) and the custodial party or noncustodial parent live in the same state and the initiating and responding jurisdictions are located in the same state but different counties.		DCSS Legal		Case Management	Duplicate Case
Issuing State	The state which has issued a support order or rendered a judgment determining parentage.		Title 22, Division 13, Section 117052		Interstate	Interstate Cases; Uniform Interstate Family Support Act.

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Child Support Program Glossary ¹

Term	Definition	Acronym	Source	Cross Reference	Category	See Also
I Issuing Tribunal	The court, administrative agency, or quasi-judicial entity that issues a support order or renders a judgment determining parentage.		Title 22, Division 13, Section 117054		Interstate	
IV-A				Title IV-A		
IV-A Agency				California Health and Human Services Agency		
IV-A Case	A child support case in which a custodial parent and child(ren) is receiving public assistance benefits under the State's IV-A program, which is funded under Title IV-A of the Social Security Act. Applicants for assistance from IV-A programs are automatically referred to their State IV-D agency in order to identify and locate the non-custodial parent, establish paternity and/or a child support order and/or obtain child support payments...		OCSE glossary		General	Temporary Assistance to Needy Families; Public Assistance
IV-D				Title IV-D		
IV-D Agency				Child Support Enforcement Agency		
IV-D Case	A child support case where at least one of the parties, either custodial party (CP) or the non-custodial parent (NCP), has requested or received IV-D services from the State's IV-D agency. A IV-D case is composed of a custodial party, non-custodial parent or putative father, and dependent(s).		OCSE glossary		General	
IV-D Case Number				Case ID		
IV-E				Title IV-E		
IV-E Agency				California Health and Human Services Agency		
IV-E Case	A child support case in which the State is providing benefits or services under Title IV-E of the Social Security Act to a person, family, or institution that is raising a child or children that are not their own...		OCSE glossary		General	Foster Care
J Job Search Order				Work Search Order		
Joint Custody				Custody		

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Child Support Program Glossary ¹

	Term	Definition	Acronym	Source	Cross Reference	Category	See Also
J	Judgment	The final decision of the court resolving the dispute and determining the rights and obligations of the parties.		DCSS Legal		Legal	
	Judgment Creditor	The person to whom child support is owed.		LCSA glossary		Case Management	
	Judgment Debtor	The person against whom judgment has been obtained in a court action who has not fully satisfied the judgment. In a child support case, the defendant who is ordered to pay child support is a judgment debtor.		LCSA glossary		Case Management	
	Judgment Debtor Exam				Order to Appear for Examination		
	Judicial Council of California	The Judicial Council of California is the constitutionally mandated body responsible for improving the administration of justice in the state. The council is headed by the Chief Justice of the California Supreme Court and is made up of judges, court executives, attorneys, and legislators. It was established to standardize court administration, practice, and procedure by adopting and enforcing rules for the State Courts.		DCSS Legal		General	
	Judicial Order				Court Order		
	Judicial Remedies	A general designation for a court's enforcement of child support obligations.		OCSE glossary		Legal	
	Jurisdiction	The legal authority which a court or administrative agency has over particular persons and over certain types of cases, usually in a defined geographical area.		OCSE glossary		Legal	Initiating Jurisdiction; Long Arm Jurisdiction
	Juvenile	A person under the legal age of adulthood, usually 18 years but in some instances 21 years.		www.courtinfo.ca.gov			Minor Child
	Juvenile Court	That part of the Superior court that has jurisdiction over delinquency, status offense, and dependency cases involving minor children.		www.courtinfo.ca.gov		General	
K	Keeper				Till Tap		
	KinGAP				Kinship Guardian Assistance Program		
	Kinship Guardian Assistance Program	The Kinship Guardianship Assistance Payment Program under which public assistance is provided on behalf of children in long-term placements with relatives, as specified in Chapter 2 of Part 3 of Division 9 of the Welfare and Institutions Code commencing with Section 11360.	KinGAP	Title 22, Division 13, Section 119048 (Proposed)		General	

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Child Support Program Glossary ¹

Term	Definition	Acronym	Source	Cross Reference	Category	See Also
L Laches	Unreasonable delay or negligence in enforcing a right of action or claim.		DCSS Legal		Legal	
Legal Custody				Custody		
Legal Description	A statement of the boundaries of real property by fixed landmarks, courses, distances, and quantity or by reference to maps, plots or surveys.		DCSS Legal		Legal	
Legal Father	A man who is recognized by law as the male parent of a child.		OCSE glossary		Case Management	
Levy	The seizure or taking possession of property pursuant to a writ by a sheriff or other authorized person for the satisfaction of a judgment.		DCSS Legal		Case Management	
Lien	A claim upon property to prevent sale or transfer of that property until a debt is satisfied.		OCSE glossary		Enforcement	
Lienholder	A person who holds a lien on another's property or funds.		LCSA glossary		Enforcement	Lien
Liquidate	To pay and settle a debt. To gather the assets of a debtor, convert them into cash, and distribute them according to the legal rights of the parties. To ascertain the amount that a bankrupt person owes and to apportion the assets toward a discharge of the debts.		DCSS Legal		Enforcement	
Litigation	A civil action or suit in which a controversy is brought before the court.		OCSE glossary		Legal	
Local Child Support Agency	The county office or department that has entered into a cooperative agreement with the California Department of Child Support Services to secure child, spousal and medical support, and determine paternity.	LCSA	Title 22, Division 13, Section 110410		General	IV-D Agency
Local Child Support Agency Representative	Agent or officer of the Local Child Support Agency.		LCSA glossary		Case Management	Local Child Support Agency
Local Plan of Cooperation	A cooperative agreement between a local child support agency and another county agency that coordinates their respective roles and delineates responsibilities for establishing paternity, establishing, modifying, and enforcing child support, spousal support, and medical support, or otherwise carrying out the requirements of Title IV-D.		Title 22, Division 13, Section 110411		General	

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Child Support Program Glossary ¹

Term	Definition	Acronym	Source	Cross Reference	Category	See Also
L Local Rules of Court	A set of procedural regulations adopted by courts which are mandatory upon parties and their lawyers on matters within the jurisdiction of those courts. Most states have statewide rules of court. Local rules of court encompass the time allowed to file papers, the format of documents, the number of copies to be filed, the procedure to file motions, fees for filing various documents and numerous other vital matters.		DCSS Legal		General	
Locate	Information concerning the physical whereabouts of the custodial party, noncustodial parent, noncustodial parent's employers, or the noncustodial parent's sources of income or assets which is used for the purpose of establishing paternity and establishing, modifying, and/or enforcing a child support obligation.		Title 22, Division 13, Section 110413		General	
Locate Information	Data used to locate a Putative Father (PF) or non-custodial parent (NCP). May include their Social Security Number (SSN), date of birth (DOB), residential address, and employer.		OCSE glossary		Case Management	
Location	Information concerning the physical whereabouts of the custodial party, non-custodial parent, non-custodial parent's employers, or the non-custodial parent's sources of income or assets which is used for the purpose of establishing paternity and establishing, modifying and/or enforcing a child support obligation.		Title 22, Division 13, Section 110413		General	
Long Arm Jurisdiction	The legal authority for one state to assert personal jurisdiction over someone who lives or is served with process in another state.		Title 22, Division 13, Section 117064		Interstate	Two-State Action; Uniform Interstate Family Support Act
Long Arm Statute	Statutes which permit one state to claim personal jurisdiction over someone who lives in another state.		DCSS Legal		Interstate	Long Arm Jurisdiction; Uniform Interstate Family Support Act
Lost Warrant Affidavit	A statement under penalty of perjury by a payee, that the payee has not received a warrant by the County Auditor-Controller for child support, TANF, CalWORKS, KinGAP or disregard. Also called Lost/Destroyed Warrant certificate.		DCSS Legal		Financial	
Lottery Intercept	A program in which delinquent child support payments which have been reported to the Franchise Tax Board as part of the Franchise Tax Board intercept program are deducted from state lottery winnings and sent to DCSS.		LCSA glossary		Case Management	California Franchise Tax Board; Intercept
Low Income Adjustment				Hardship		

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Child Support Program Glossary ¹

Term	Definition	Acronym	Source	Cross Reference	Category	See Also
M Majority	The legal age status at which full personal and civil rights may be exercised.		Webster's II New College Dictionary		General	Emancipation, Minor Child
Manual of Policy and Procedures	Regulations governing the functions of the county welfare department with respect to the child support program. A plan of cooperation that was developed and executed with each county which delegates certain functions of the program to local child support offices.	MPP	MPP Div. 12		General	
Marital Settlement Agreement	A written contract between spouses that contains details about how the issues in their case will be handled, including division of property and debts, support, or child custody. It is often incorporated into a stipulated judgment of dissolution, legal separation, or annulment.		DCSS Legal		Legal	Dissolution
Marriage	Marriage is a personal relation arising out of a civil contract between two people, to which the consent of the parties capable of making that contract is necessary, followed by the issuance of a license.		DCSS Legal		General	Presumption of Paternity
Maximum Family Grant	Starting August 1, 1997, if the custodial parent has been on public assistance for ten consecutive months, and has another child, the maximum aid payment will not increase.	MFG	DCSS Legal		Case Management	Maximum Family Grant Child
Maximum Family Grant Child	A child, or children in the case of a multiple birth, that is born into a family that has received public assistance under the CalWORKs program continuously for ten months prior to the birth of the child or children. The child or children in the case is not included in the family for the purpose of determining the maximum CalWORKs public assistance payment.	MFG Child	Title 22, Division 13, Section 119052 (Proposed)		Case Management	Maximum Family Grant
Medical Assistance Only	Form of public assistance administered by a State's IV-A program, which provides benefits to recipients only in the form of medical, rather than financial, assistance.	MAO	OCSE glossary		Case Management	
Medi-Cal Eligibility Data System	Computer program that allows access to authorized users of information on individuals receiving TANF/Medi-Cal in California.	MEDS	DCSS Legal		Case Management	
Medical Insurance				Health Insurance Coverage		
Medi-Cal Program	California's medical assistance program provided under the State Plan approved under Title XIX of the Social Security Act.		Title 22, Division 13, Section 110428		General	

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Term	Definition	Acronym	Source	Cross Reference	Category	See Also
M Medical Support	Any liability or payment for the purposes of medical care under a court or administrative order, including but not limited to health insurance coverage, specific dollar amounts for medical purposes, and payments for medical care from any third party.		Title 22, Division 13, Section 110431 (Proposed)		General	
Medical Support Judgment	A judgment for medical support.		DCSS Legal		General	Medical Support, Health Insurance Coverage
Medically Needy Only Recipient	An individual who is receiving only benefits under the Medi-Cal program.		Title 22, Division 13, Section 110430		General	Medi-cal Program
Military Allotment	The amount which is automatically deducted from the pay of military personnel for a designated purpose. This may include an allotment which will be sent to dependents. Allotments can be voluntary or involuntary.		LCSA glossary		Case Management	Allotment
Minimum Basic Standards of Adequate Care	The minimum amount necessary to provide an aided family with basic needs.	MBSAC	DCSS Legal		General	
Minor Child	A person under the age of 18 years, that has not been legally emancipated.		DCSS Legal		General	Juvenile, Emancipation
Minor Parent	A person under the age of 18, who has not been legally emancipated but is the mother/father of a minor child. May also be referred to as Minor Mother, Minor Father or Minor Non-Custodial Parent.		DCSS Legal		General	Emancipation, Juvenile
Minute Order	The courtroom clerk's written minutes of court proceedings. Copies of the minute orders are usually kept in the court's case files and the court clerk's office.		DCSS Legal		Legal	
Mixed Aid Status Case	A Title IV-D case in which one or more of the children in the case has a different public assistance or non-public assistance status, either currently or in the past.		Title 22, Division 13, Section 119054 (Proposed)		Case Management	Aid; Public Assistance; Temporary Assistance to Needy Families
Modification	A court ordered change or alteration of a child support order.		Title 22, Division 13, Section 110436		General	Review and Adjustment
Monthly Support Obligation	The amount of money an obligor is required to pay each month for support.	MSO	OCSE glossary		Case Management	
Motion	An application to the court requesting an order or rule in favor of the party that is filing the motion. Motions are generally made in reference to a pending action and may address a matter in the court's discretion or concern a point of law.		OCSE glossary		Legal	

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Term	Definition	Acronym	Source	Cross Reference	Category	See Also
M Motion for Judgment	A request for the court to set a matter for hearing and take specific action to enter a judgment.		DCSS Legal		Legal	
Multistate Employer	An organization that hires and employs people in two or more States. The multistate employer conducts business within each State and the employees are required to pay taxes in the State where they work. As with single-state employers, multistate employers are required by law to report all new hires to the State Directory of New Hires (SDNH) operated by their State government. However, unlike single-state employers, they have the option to report all of their new hires to the SDNH of only one State in which they do business rather than to all of them.		OCSE glossary		Case Management	
Multistate Financial Institution Data Match	Process created by the Personal Responsibility and Work Opportunity Reconciliation Act (PRWORA) of 1996 by which delinquent child support obligors are matched with accounts held in Financial Institutions (FI) doing business in more than one State.	MSFIDM	OCSE glossary		Case Management	Personal Responsibility and Work Opportunity Reconciliation Act of 1996
N National Automated Clearing House Association	The association that establishes the standards, rules, and procedures that enable financial institutions to exchange payments on a national basis.	NACHA	OCSE glossary		Financial	
National Directory of New Hires	A national database containing New Hire and Quarterly Wage data from every State and Federal agency and Unemployment Insurance data from State Employment Security Agencies. Data contained is first reported to each state's State Directory of New Hires and then transmitted to the National Directory of New Hires. The Office of Child Support Enforcement maintains the National Directory of New Hires as part of the expanded Federal Parent Locator Service.	NDNH	Title 22, Division 13, Section 110445		General	New Hire Data; Quarterly Wage Data; Unemployment Insurance Claim Data
National Medical Support Notice	Means the notice "National Medical Support Notice", Part A, "Notice to Withhold for Health Care Coverage", OMB 0970-0222, and Part B, "Medical Support Notice to Plan Administrator," OMB 1210-0113, directed to the obligor's employer pursuant to a medical support order requiring the obligor to provide health insurance coverage for the obligor's minor child(ren).	NMSN	Title 22, Division 13, Section 110449		General	
National Personnel Records Center	Part of the National Archives and Records Administration's system of record storage facilities. The NPRC receives and stores both Federal Military and Civilian personnel records.	NPRC	OCSE glossary		Case Management	
Natural Father					Biological Father	

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Term	Definition	Acronym	Source	Cross Reference	Category	See Also
N Never Assigned Arrearages	Arrearages that have never been assigned to the State in never assistance cases. Never assigned arrearages also means the arrearages in former assistance cases that accrued after a family's most recent period of public assistance ends.		Title 22, Division 13, Section 119057 (Proposed)		Financial	
Never Assistance Case	A case in which an obligee and child is not currently and has never in the past received public assistance and is currently receiving Title IV-D services from the local child support agency.		Title 22, Division 13, Section 119059 (Proposed)		Financial	
New Employee Registry	A database maintained by the California Employment Development Department (EDD), which contains information regarding newly hired employees within the State.	NER	OCSE glossary		General	National Directory of New Hires, State Directory of New Hires
New Hire Data	Data on a new employee that employers must submit within 20 days of hire to the State Directory of New Hires (SDNH) in the State in which they do business. Minimum information must include the employee's name, address, and Federal Employer Identification Number (FEIN). Some States may require or request additional data. Multistate employers have the option of reporting all of their newly hired employees to only one State in which they do business. This data is then submitted to the National Directory of New Hires (NDNH), where it is compared against child support order information contained in the Federal Case Registry (FCR) for possible enforcement of child support obligations by wage garnishment. New hire data may also be used at the State level to find new hires that have been receiving unemployment insurance or other public benefits for which they may no longer be eligible, helping States to reduce waste and fraud. Federal Agencies report this data directly to the NDNH. Also known as "W4 data", after the form used to report the employees.	NH	OCSE glossary		Case Management	State Directory of New Hires; National Directory of New Hires
New Hire Reporting Program	Requires all employers report newly hired employees to the State Directory of New Hires (SDNH) in their State for submission to the National Directory of New Hires (NDNH).		DCSS Legal		Case Management	State Directory of New Hires; National Directory of New Hires
Non-Compliance	For the purposes of paying incentives and passing on federal sanctions, non-compliance means a county fails to achieve compliance with each program performance standard in 75 percent of the cases reviewed.		LCSA glossary		General	Compliance, Performance Measures

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Term	Definition	Acronym	Source	Cross Reference	Category	See Also
N Non-Cooperation	Failure of a CalWORKS or Medically Needy Only (MNO) recipient to cooperate with the Local Child Support Agency in identifying and locating the non-custodial parent, establishing paternity and/or child support, and/or enforcing child support payments.		DCSS Legal		Case Management	Cooperation, Good Cause
Noncustodial Parent	The parent of the child(ren) that may be or is obligated to pay child support.	NCP	Title 22, Division 13, Section 110456		General	Obligor
Non-Disclosure Order	A finding by the court that the health, safety, or liberty of a party or child would be unreasonably put at risk by disclosure of identifying information (e.g., residential address) and an order by the court that the address or other identifying information of the party or child not be disclosed in a pleading or other court document.		FC 4926		General	Disclosure Prohibited Notice, Family Violence Indicator
Non-Federal Foster Care	Foster Care public assistance program funded with state and county funds.		Title 22, Division 13, Section 110299 (Proposed)		General	Foster Care
Non-IV-A Case	A support case in which the custodial party has requested IV-D services but is not receiving CalWORKS.		DCSS Legal		Case Management	Non-Welfare Case, Private Case, CalWORKS
Non-IV-D Orders	A support order in which the custodial party is not receiving or has not received TANF/CalWORKS and is not receiving or has not received Title IV-D services from a child support enforcement agency. A non-IV-D order can be converted into a IV-D case when the appropriate application for IV-D services is made or when the custodial party begins receiving Title IV-A services for benefit of the child(ren) or the child(ren) is placed in foster care and Title IV-E payments are made on behalf of the child(ren).		DCSS Legal		General	
Non-Needy Payee	The payee of a public assistance case where the child resides with a relative or unrelated adult who is not able to sustain the additional financial burden of the child without public assistance yet does not require public assistance for him or herself.		DCSS Legal		General	Caretaker
Non-Welfare Case	A case in which the custodial party is not currently receiving public assistance and does not have an application for public assistance pending.		DCSS Legal		General	Private Case, Non IV-A Case
Notice and Acknowledgement of Receipt	A form adopted by the Judicial Council for mandatory use by the LCSA when attempting to complete service of process through the mail.	NAR	DCSS Legal		Legal	Proof of Service

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Term	Definition	Acronym	Source	Cross Reference	Category	See Also
N Notice and Request for Allowance of Lien	A form used in a Worker's Compensation Appeals Board case to provide a formal notice of a lien against an obligor's potential Permanent Disability award from the Board.		DCSS Legal		Case Management	
Notice of Complaint Resolution	A notice that is issued through form LCR006 by the Local Child Support Agency, to the complainant, that explains the agency's actions taken or that will be taken to resolve the complaint.		DCSS Complaint Resolution Process		Customer Service	Complaint Resolution Process
Notice of Complaint Resolution Extension	A notice that is issued through form LCR005 by the Local Child Support Agency, to the complainant, that explains the agency's need to extend the complaint resolution period to resolve the complaint.		DCSS Complaint Resolution Process		Customer Service	Complaint Resolution Process
Notice of Entry of Judgment	A form adopted by the Judicial Council for mandatory use by the LCSA to provide notice to the parties that a judgment has been entered in the court's judgment book.		DCSS Legal		Legal	
Notice of Insufficient Funds	A notice that the bank sends the Local Child Support Agency indicating that there are not sufficient funds in the account to cover the draft. Also known as Notice of Non-Sufficient Funds (NSF).	NIF or NSF	CCDP Project		General	
Notice of Involuntary Lien	A notice to the obligor that a lien has been filed against his or her name. If the obligor owns real property, the lien will automatically attach to the property.		LCSA glossary		General	
Notice of Motion	A formal written notice by one of the parties to an action, that a motion requesting specified relief will be made before the court at the time and place stated in the notice.	NOM	DCSS Legal		Legal	
Notice of Motion for Judicial Review of License Denial	A request to the court for a review of the Local Child Support Agency's reason for denying the release of an obligor's license.		DCSS Legal		Legal	
Notice of Non-Cooperation	Notice by an LCSA to the local welfare department that a CalWORKS or Medically Needy Only applicant/recipient has failed to cooperate with the Local Child Support Agency in identifying and/or locating the noncustodial parent, establishing paternity, and/or child support and/or enforcing child support.	Non-Coop	DCSS Legal		Case Management	
Notice Regarding Payment of Support	A form adopted by the Judicial Council for mandatory use by the LCSA filed with the court, directing that support payments shall be made to the local child support agency. Also serves to notify that support has been assigned or there has been a substitution of payee.		FC 4506.3, 4506.1, 4506.2		Case Management	

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	Term	Definition	Acronym	Source	Cross Reference	Category	See Also
N	Notice to Appear and Produce	A notice served on a party in a civil proceeding, which orders him/her to appear in court and bring specific documents or records to court.		DCSS Legal		Legal	
	Notice to Withhold Income for Child Support				Order/Notice to Withhold Income for Child Support		
	Nunc Pro Tunc	Latin meaning "now for then". A judgment or order entered to amend and take effect as of an earlier judgment or order.		DCSS Legal		Legal	
O	Obligated	Required to pay an obligation determined due by a court or administrative order.		DCSS Legal		General	Obligor, Obligation
	Obligation	Amount of money to be paid by an obligor as ordered by a court or administrative agency; financial support such as, child support, family support, spousal support, or medical support. An obligation is a recurring, ongoing obligation, not a onetime debt such as an assessment.		DCSS Legal		General	Obligated, Obligor
	Obligee	An individual, agency, or entity to whom a duty of support is owed.		Title 22, Division 13, Section 110473		General	Custodial Party
	Obligor	An individual, or the estate of a decedent, who owes a duty of support.		Title 22, Division 13, Section 110474		General	Noncustodial Parent
	Off Calendar	When a case is removed from the Courts schedule or calendar.		DCSS Legal		Legal	
	Office of Child Support Enforcement	The Federal agency responsible for the administration of the child support program nationally. Created by Title IV-D of the Social Security Act in 1975, OCSE is responsible for the development of child support policy; oversight; evaluation, and audits of State child support enforcement programs; and provides technical assistance and training to the State programs. OCSE operates the Federal Parent Locator Service, which includes the National Directory of New Hires (NDNH) and the Federal Case Registry (FCR). OCSE is part of the Administration for Children and Families (ACF), which is within the Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS).	OCSE	OCSE glossary		General	
	Office of Personnel Management	The Federal Government's "Human Resources Agency."	OPM	OCSE glossary		General	

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Term	Definition	Acronym	Source	Cross Reference	Category	See Also
O Office of Vital Records	The office within the California Department of Health Services is charged with the responsibility of maintaining a uniform system for registration and a permanent central registry with a comprehensive and continuous index for all birth, death, fetal death, marriage and dissolution certificates registered for vital events which occur in California.	OVR	www.dhs.ca.gov		General	
Offset	Amount of money intercepted from a parent's State or Federal income tax refund, or from an administrative payment such as Federal retirement benefits, in order to satisfy a child support debt.		OCSE glossary		Financial	
Ombudsman				Ombudsperson		
Ombudsperson	The person designated within each Local Child Support Agency to be the lead administrator of the Ombudsperson Program.		Title 22, Division 13, Section 110478		Customer Service	Ombudsperson Program
Ombudsperson Program	The person, persons, or office so designated within each Local Child Support Agency to provide a means to resolve customer issues related to child support services. Issues may include inquiries, questions or requests for assistance or facilitation in navigating the local complaint resolution and state hearing processes.		Title 22, Division 13, Section 110479		Customer Service	Complaint Resolution Process
Omnibus Budget Reconciliation Act of 1993	Legislation that mandated that insurance providers and employers offer dependent health coverage to children even if the child is not in the custody of the employee in the plan. OBRA '93 created Qualified Medical Child Support Orders (QMCSOs).	OBRA '93	OCSE glossary		Case Management	Qualified Medical Child Support Order
Open Case	An active case, in the process of either establishing paternity, or establishing or enforcing an order for support.		DCSS Legal		Case Management	
Order	A decision or judgment of a magistrate, judge, or properly empowered administrative officer.		DCSS Legal		Legal	Court Order; Support Order
Order After Hearing	A judicial Council form used to formalize a court order for a hearing subsequent to the original judgment.		DCSS Legal		Legal	
Order Shortening Time	An order by a judge allowing a motion to be served on the other party with less notice than is required by law, processed by an ex parte application showing good cause to the judge for an order shortening time.		CCP 1005		Legal	
Order To Appear For Examination	An order by a court that the judgment debtor or a third party appear in court on a specified date and time to answer questions about his or her assets and income.		DCSS Legal		Legal	Judgment Debtor

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Term	Definition	Acronym	Source	Cross Reference	Category	See Also
O Order to Show Cause	An order by a court that a party appear in court on a certain date and give reasons, legal and/or factual, (show cause) why a particular order should not be made.	OSC	www.law.com		Legal	Show Cause
Order to Show Cause and Affidavit for Contempt	An order by a court that a party appear and give reasons (show cause) why the court should not hold him/her in contempt for failure to abide by a court order.		DCSS Legal		Legal	Order to Show Cause, Show Cause, Contempt
Order/Notice to Withhold Income for Child Support	The form to be used by all States to request income withholding for child support.	ONTW	DCSS Legal		Case Management	Direct Income Withholding, Income Withholding Order, Income Withholding
Other Group Health Insurance	Private group health insurance coverage provided through an organization other than through an employment-related group health insurance.		Title 22, Division 13, Section 110485		General	Health Insurance Coverage, Employment-Related Group Health Insurance
Other Parent	An individual among the case participants who is somehow involved in the case, but is neither the Custodial Party or the Non-custodial Parent, e.g. the NCP is the mother and the CP is the child's aunt, the "Other Parent" is the father of the child.	OP	DCSS Legal		General	
P Parent Locator Service				Federal Parent Locator Service or California Parent Locator Service		
Parentage	The mother and father of a child.		DCSS Legal		General	Paternity
Partial Satisfaction of Judgment				Satisfaction of Judgment		
Participant				Case Participant		
Pass-on Payment	The amount by which the current support payment exceeds the current federal Foster Care assistance payment for the month which is forwarded to the county welfare department on behalf of the child.		Title 22, Division 13, Section 119063 (Proposed)		Financial	

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Child Support Program Glossary ¹

Term	Definition	Acronym	Source	Cross Reference	Category	See Also
P Passport Denial Program	Created by the Personal Responsibility and Work Opportunity Reconciliation Act (PRWORA) of 1996 and operated under the auspices of the Federal Tax Refund Offset Program, obligors with an arrearage balance exceeding the amount specified in federal law are submitted to the Federal Office of Child Support Enforcement (OCSE) for Tax Refund Offset and forwarded to the U.S. Department of State, which "flags" the obligor's name and refuses to issue a passport in the event he/she applies for one.		DCSS Legal		Case Management	Federal Tax Refund Offset Program
Past Due Support				Arrearage		
Paternity	A legal determination of fatherhood.		DCSS Legal		General	Performance Measures, Genetic Testing, Biological Father
Paternity Affidavit				Affidavit in Support of Establishing Paternity		
Paternity At Issue	The legal determination of fatherhood has not yet been established.		LCSA glossary			
Paternity Declaration				Declaration of Paternity		
Paternity Judgment	A judgment by a court, usually in writing, determining the legal father of a minor child.		DCSS Legal		Case Management	
Paternity Not At Issue	The legal determination of fatherhood has been established.		LCSA glossary		General	
Paternity Opportunity Program	A voluntary paternity acknowledgment program, implemented January 1995, which establishes paternity for unmarried fathers.	POP	DCSS Legal		General	
Paternity Questionnaire				Confidential Paternity Questionnaire		
Payee	Person or organization in whose name child support money is paid.		OCSE glossary		General	Custodial Party, Obligee
Payer	Person who makes a payment.		DCSS Legal		General	Non-custodial Parent, Obligor
Payment History				Payment Record		

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Child Support Program Glossary ¹

Term	Definition	Acronym	Source	Cross Reference	Category	See Also
P Payment Hold	Collections that are held by the Local Child Support Agency for distribution and disbursement at a later date for various reasons, such as, but not limited to: custodial party's location is unknown, payments cannot be identified, payments are being held for distribution in a subsequent month.		DCSS Legal		Financial	Futures, Suspense
Payment Record	A record of financial transactions including payments and obligations associated with a child support case.		DCSS Legal		Financial	Account
Payment Source	The person, enforcement method or entity, from which a support payment is received.		Title 22, Division 13, Section 119065 (Proposed)		Financial	
Payments				Collection		
PC 270	A criminal proceeding resulting from obligor's willful failure to provide for the needs of his/her minor child(ren).		DCSS Legal		Legal	
Performance Measures	Federal: Criteria established by the Office of Child Support Enforcement to measure State performance levels in five program areas: Paternity Establishment; Support Order Establishment; Current Collections; Arrearage Collections; and Cost Effectiveness. State: Criteria established in the child support reform legislation of 1999 to assess program performance in a total of eleven different performance standards.		DCSS Legal		General	
Performance Review				Compliance Review		
Perjury	Testifying falsely, under oath, to a material fact in court or at an administrative hearing/proceeding or at a deposition, and/or knowingly signing a document which contains false material facts and the document is signed "under penalty of perjury".		DCSS Legal		Legal	
Permanent Disability Benefits	Worker's Compensation payments to compensate an injured worker for the effects of any work related injury which causes a permanent loss of earning power or permanent impairment. The amount of payment is based on a "rating" which apportions the exact amount of disability or impairment.	PD	DCSS Legal		General	
Permanently Assigned Arrearages	Unpaid support that is assigned to the State as of September 30, 1998, and unpaid support that accrues on or after October 1, 1998, or while a family or child is receiving public assistance.		Title 22, Division 13, Section 119067 (Proposed)		Financial	

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Term	Definition	Acronym	Source	Cross Reference	Category	See Also
P Personal Jurisdiction	The legal authority of a tribunal to render judgment against a party to an action or a proceeding and subject a person to the decisions, rulings, and orders of the tribunal.		Title 22, Division 13, Section 117074		Interstate	
Personal Property	Generally, possessions or interests which are not real property or a right or interest in an estate in real property which is less than a freehold, but which are easily transported or stored, e.g. cars, boats, furniture, tools, bank accounts, etc. Personal property may also include a claim in a lawsuit, a bankruptcy action, an insurance claim, a retirement fund, or an estate in probate.		DCSS Legal		General	Real Property
Personal Responsibility and Work Opportunity Reconciliation Act of 1996	Legislation that provides a number of requirements for employers, public licensing agencies, financial institutions, as well as State and Federal child support agencies, to assist in the location of non-custodial parents and the establishment, enforcement, and collection of child support. This legislation created the New Hire Reporting program, the State and Federal Case Registries, and the State Disbursement Unit. Otherwise known as Welfare Reform.	PRWORA	DCSS Legal		General	
Personal Service of Process	Service of court papers by handing a copy to the person to be served or to someone authorized to receive it on the person's behalf.		DCSS Legal		General	Process Server, Service of Process
Petition	A formal written request presented to the court requesting specific judicial action.		www.courtinfo.ca.gov		Legal	Complaint
Petitioner	One who signs and/or files a petition.		Legal Dictionary		Legal	Petition
Placement	Either the voluntary placement by an applicant who had custody of his/her child and placed the child in out-of-home care or the placement of a child in out-of-home care as a result of a child being declared a dependent child of the court under Welfare and Institutions Code Section 300.		Title 22, Division 13, Section 119069		Case Management	Dependency Hearing, Foster Care
Plaintiff	A person who brings an action; the party who complains or sues in a civil case.		OCSE glossary		Legal	
Plan Administrator	Any person who collects any charge or premium from, or who adjusts or settles claims on, residents of California in connection with health insurance coverage.		Title 22, Division 13, Section 116061		Enforcement	
Plan of Cooperation	The contractual agreement between the Department and each county's Local Child Support Agency for administering the Child Support Enforcement Program.		MPP Section 12-101		General	

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Child Support Program Glossary ¹

Term	Definition	Acronym	Source	Cross Reference	Category	See Also
P Plan of Reorganization	This term is used in Chapter 11 cases and is otherwise known as a "bankruptcy plan." It is a detailed plan of action formulated by a debtor or its creditor to govern the debtor's rehabilitation, continued operation or liquidation, and payment of debts. It sets forth a list of debts and timetables to repay the debts. The bankruptcy court and creditors must approve the plan before it is implemented.		US Code Title 11, Chapter 11, Subchapter II, Section 1123		Bankruptcy	Bankruptcy Plan
Plea	In criminal law, the response by an accused defendant to each charge of the commission of a crime. Pleas normally are "not guilty," "guilty," "no contest" (admitting the facts, but unwilling to plead "guilty," thus resulting in the equivalent of a "guilty" verdict but without admitting the crime). "No Contest" is sometimes referred to as "Nolo Contendere".		www.law.com		Legal	
Pleadings	Statements or allegations, presented in logical and legal form, which constitute a plaintiff's cause of action or a defendant's grounds of defense.		OCSE glossary		Legal	
Policies, Procedures and Practices	The Policies, Procedures, and Practices (P3) Project was initiated by the Director to make recommendations on implementing the mandated performance measures.		DCSS Public Web site		General	
Policy Interpretation Question	An official reply by the Federal Office of Child Support Enforcement (OCSE) to an inquiry submitted by a State child support agency concerning application of policy. Although questions often arise from a specific practice or situation, the responses are official statements of OCSE policy on the issue.	PIQ	OCSE glossary		General	
POP Dec				Declaration of Paternity		
Preliminary Title Report	When a buyer, seller or lending agency requests that a title insurance company conduct a title search, the first report they get is call the "Preliminary Title Report". It is a report that includes a list of all of the liens affecting the property. A child support judgment recorded in the County Recorder's Office will appear on the preliminary report.		LCSA glossary		General	
Prepayment				Futures		
Presumed Father				Putative Father		
Presumed Income	Presumed income is used to calculate child support for those absent parents for whom we are unable to locate any income information. Presumed income is based on California's minimum wage.		DCSS Legal		Case Management	Minimum Basic Standards of Adequate Care

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Term	Definition	Acronym	Source	Cross Reference	Category	See Also
P Presumption	<p>A rule of law that assumes or takes for granted the existence of a fact. There are two types of presumptions: conclusive and rebuttable.</p> <p>A conclusive presumption is a rule of substantive law to be applied by the court in it's evaluation of the issues, the same as any other fixed rule of law. (i.e. - A conclusive presumption of paternity holds that a man is the father of a child, if he is not impotent or sterile, and if he was married to and cohabitating with the mother of the child at the time of conception.)</p> <p>A rebuttable presumption is an assumption of facts made based on common experience but which may not exist at all and may be overcome by opposing evidence. (i.e. - A rebuttable presumption of paternity assumes a man to be the father of a child in certain circumstances, unless the man proves he is not the father.)</p>		DCSS Legal		Legal	Paternity
Private Case	Known as a non IV-D case, it is a support case where the custodial parent to whom child support is owed is not receiving IV-A benefits or IV-D services.		OCSE glossary		General	Non IV-A Case, Non-Welfare Case
Proactive Matching	Process in which child support case data newly submitted to the Federal Case Registry (FCR) is automatically compared with previous submissions, as well as with the employment data in the National Directory of New Hires (NDNH).		OCSE glossary		Case Management	
Probate	The judicial process to determine if a document of a dead person (called the "decedent") is a will or not and giving notice of it's contents; lawful distribution of a decedent's estate.		DCSS Legal		Legal	
Probation	A kind of punishment given out as part of a sentence which means that instead of jailing a person convicted of a crime, a judge will order that any time of incarceration be suspended on condition the defendant meets certain standards of conduct or obligation. Should the defendant violate the terms and conditions of probation, the court may revoke probation and impose the sentence.		DCSS Legal		General	
Proceeding	The conduct of business before a judge or administrative hearing officer.		OCSE glossary		Legal	
Process Server	A person who delivers (serves) legal papers to a party to a lawsuit.		www.law.com, www.courtinfo.ca.gov			Service of Process

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Term	Definition	Acronym	Source	Cross Reference	Category	See Also
P Program Improvement Plan	Written plan for improvement submitted to the state, by an LCSA, as a result of a non-compliance finding in a particular area.		LCSA glossary		General	Non-Compliance
Project Save Our Children	A Federal Office of Child Support Enforcement initiative to enhance the ability of State and local IV-D agencies to submit eligible cases for Federal criminal prosecution under the authority of the Child Support Recovery Act of 1992 and the Deadbeat Parent's Punishment Act of 1998.	PSOC	CSS Letter #01-13		General	
Proof of Claim	A statement under oath filed in a bankruptcy proceeding by a creditor in which the creditor sets forth the amount owed and sufficient detail to identify the basis for the claim. Note: Evidence of the debt (generally in a child support judgment or order, or administrative order) must be attached. The Proof of Claim must be filed with the court in order for payment under the bankruptcy to be received.		US Code Title 11, Appendix Part III, Rule 3001		Bankruptcy	
Proof of Service	The form filed with the court that states the manner, place, date, and time of service of the specified documents on a party in a court action.		DCSS Legal		Legal	Notice of Acknowledgement and Receipt, Service of Process
Property of the Estate	The debtor's tangible and intangible property interests (including legal and equitable interests) as of the commencement of the bankruptcy. Note: The assets which the debtor cannot exempt and the trustee distributes to the creditors. Property of the estate may include income, rental properties (primary residence is generally exempted), income tax refunds, and other assets. Check the Bankruptcy Code and Chapter for more information.		US Code Title 11, Section 541		Bankruptcy	
Property Tax Exemption File	A list which can be obtained from the California Board of Equalization on all absent parents who have filed homeowners exemptions.	PTEF	DCSS Legal		Case Management	
Proposed Decision	The State hearing decision submitted by an Administrative Law Judge to the Director or Director's designee for adoption.		Title 22, Division 13, Section 120004		Customer Service	
Proposed Judgment	Along with a summons & complaint, the Local Child Support Agency files a proposed Judgment Regarding Parental Obligations with the court. The proposed judgment reflects the terms of the child support order and becomes an order of the court if the obligor does not respond, after being served.		DCSS Legal			Default, Summons and Complaint

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Term	Definition	Acronym	Source	Cross Reference	Category	See Also
P Pro-rata	According to a certain rate, percentage, or proportion. According to measure, interest, or liability. Note: A distribution based upon a percentage formula proposed by the debtor. In certain bankruptcies the creditors will receive a pro-rata distribution based upon their debt and the balance will be discharged.		Legal		Bankruptcy	
Prorate	To divide, distribute, or assess proportionately.		www.merriam-webster.com			
Public Assistance	Any amount paid under the TANF, CalWORKS program, as specified in Section 110098, or foster care, or any Medi-Cal benefit, for the benefit of any dependent child or the caretaker or child.		Title 22, Division 13, Section 110539 (Proposed)		General	Temporary Assistance to Needy Families, CalWORKs, Foster Care, Medi-Cal
Public Defender	A public official (usually of a county), who is an attorney regularly assigned by the courts to defend people accused of crimes who cannot afford a private attorney.		Legal Dictionary		General	
Publication				Service by Publication		
Putative Father	The person alleged to be the father of an illegitimate child but who has not yet been legally declared to be the father.	PF	DCSS Legal		Case Management	Legal Father, Paternity, Genetic Testing
Q Qualified Domestic Relations Order	A domestic relations order issued by the court, that awards the non-employee spouse a specific share of the pension benefits of the employee spouse.	QDRO	DCSS Legal		Legal	
Qualified Medical Child Support Order	An order issued by a court or administrative agency of competent jurisdiction that provides for health benefit coverage to a child.	QMCSO	DCSS Legal		Case Management	
Quality Assurance Performance Improvement	Quality Assurance is the evaluation of overall program performance on a regular basis to demonstrate that the program satisfies the relevant standards. The outcome of quality assurance is Performance Improvement.	QAPI	LCSA Letter 02-30		General	

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Q Quarterly Wage Data	Data on all employees that must be submitted by employers on a quarterly basis to the State Employment Security Agency (SESA) in the State in which they operate. This data is then submitted to the National Directory of New Hires (NDNH). Minimum information must include the employee's name, address, Social Security Number (SSN), wage amount, and the reporting period as well as the employer's name, address, and Federal Employer Identification Number (FEIN). The data is then compared against child support order information contained in the Federal Case Registry (FCR) for possible enforcement of child support obligations by wage garnishment. Federal Agencies report this data directly to the NDNH.		OCSE glossary		Case Management	State Employment Security Agency; National Directory of New Hires
Quash	To cancel by judicial order.		Title 22, Division 13, Section 110547		Legal	
Quasi-Criminal	A civil court procedure similar to a criminal action because it can result in consequences such as jail time or a fine (e.g. contempt).		LCSA glossary		Legal	Contempt
Quasi-Judicial	A framework or procedure under the auspices of a State's judicial branch in which court officers other than judges act in a judicial capacity. In California, commissioners establish, enforce and modify support orders, usually subject to judicial review.		DCSS Legal		Legal	
Quick Locate	A request for locate services from one state's parent locator service to another state's parent locator service with the responding state providing those services without opening a Title IV-D case.		Title 22, Division 13, Section 110550		Case Management	
R Rap Sheet	A summary of a person's criminal history.		www.courtinfo.ca.gov		General	
Real Property	Real estate or property, such as land and buildings that are permanent, fixed, and immovable.		Title 22, Division 13, Section 116062		Enforcement	Personal Property
Real Property Lien	A charge against real property, as defined in Section 116062, to secure payment of a support obligation at the time of sale or transfer of real property.		Title 22, Division 13, Section 116063		Enforcement	
Reasonable Cost				Health Insurance Coverage at a Reasonable Cost		
Rebuttable Presumption of Paternity				Presumption		

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	Term	Definition	Acronym	Source	Cross Reference	Category	See Also
R	Receipt	A record acknowledging the receipt of a payment.		LCSA glossary		General	
	Recipient	A person or organization that receives support funds and/or Temporary Assistance to Needy Families (TANF) payments.		OCSE glossary		General	Temporary Assistance to Needy Families (TANF); IV-A, IV-A Case; Public Assistance
	Recipient of Services	The custodial party or non-custodial parent who has applied for, or is receiving, Title IV-D services, or has been referred to the Title IV-D agency.		Title 22, Division 13, Section 110554		General	
	Reciprocity	A relationship in which one State grants certain privileges to other States on the condition that they receive the same privileges.		OCSE glossary		Interstate	
	Reconciliation	The voluntary resumption of cohabitation and marital relations.		LCSA glossary		General	
	Record	1) A precise written history of a court action from commencement to termination designed to remain as permanent evidence of the matters to which it relates. 2) To officially enter in a book or record for the purpose of giving notice. 3) To "record" a document is to file it with the County Recorder's Office.		LCSA glossary		Legal	Case Record
	Recoupment	The amount of support that was collected and applied to reimburse, in whole or in part, the unreimbursed assistance pool for public assistance paid to the family.		Title 22, Division 13, Section 119072 (Proposed)		Financial	Reimbursement
	Referral	Request sent to a IV-D agency from a non IV-D agent or agency asking that a child support case be established.		OCSE glossary		Case Management	
	Refund	To return money to an obligor.		DCSS Legal		Financial	
	Region IX (Western Region)	One of ten regional offices of the Administration for Children and Families nationwide, responsible for overseeing the operation of the child support enforcement program. The Region IX office is located in San Francisco, California and oversees administration of these programs by States, Tribes, Territories and local agencies located within the following States and Pacific Islands: Arizona, California, Hawaii, Nevada, American Samoa, Federated States of Micronesia, Guam, Marshall Islands, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands and Republic of Palau.		www.acf.hhs.gov		General	

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	Term	Definition	Acronym	Source	Cross Reference	Category	See Also
R	Register	A legal process by which a support order or judgment is filed with a tribunal in a state to give that tribunal authority to modify and/or enforce a support order.		Title 22, Division 13, Section 117080		Interstate	
	Regular Payments	All support payments received, regardless of payment source, except support collections received through a Financial Management Service tax intercept.		Title 22, Division 13, Section 119074 (Proposed)		Financial	
	Regulations	Rules and administrative codes issued by governmental agencies at all levels: municipal, county, state and federal. Although they are not laws, regulations have the force of law, since they are adopted under authority granted by statutes, and often include penalties for violations.		www.law.com		Legal	
	Reimbursement	1) Repayment by the obligor of monies expended by the County in public assistance to the custodial party. 2) Repayment from the Federal government and the State government for the costs of certain activities related to the TANF program undertaken by the DCSS operating under Plans of Cooperation. Activities include paternity determination, location of absent parents, enforcement, and staff training.		LCSA glossary		Financial	Recoupment of Aid Paid
	Re-issue	To issue again.		DCSS Legal		Case Management	
	Relative Caregiver	An adult who is related to the child by blood, adoption, or affinity within the fifth degree of kinship, including stepparents, stepsiblings, and all relatives whose status is preceded by the words "great," "great-great," or "grand" or the spouse of any of those persons even if the marriage was terminated by death or dissolution and who assumed primary responsibility for the child while the child was in the relative's care and control, and who is not a biological or adoptive parent.		Title 22, Division 13, Section 119076		Case Management	
	Release of Lien	Giving up a recorded judgment lien on real or personal property.		DCSS Legal		Enforcement	Abstract of Support Judgment, Demand Letter, Satisfaction of Judgment
	Relinquishment of Parental Rights	The giving up or surrendering by a parent of the right of controlling the child and receiving the child's earnings. Abandonment by the parent is presumptive evidence of that relinquishment.		FC 7504		Legal	Termination of Parental Rights

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Term	Definition	Acronym	Source	Cross Reference	Category	See Also
R Remand	1) The act of an appellate court sending a case back to a lower court for further proceedings or entry of a judgment. 2) To return a prisoner to custody.		www.courtinfo.ca.gov		Legal	
Reopen	To reactivate a previously closed IV-D case.		LCSA glossary		Case Management	
Repayment Sharing Ratios	The rate used in determining the share of child support collected and retained as reimbursement for CalWORKs, KinGAP and Foster Care payments that are paid to the Department.		Title 22, Division 13, Section 119078 (Proposed)		Financial	
Request for Complaint Resolution	Form LCR001 that may be submitted by a complainant to request complaint resolution from the Local Child Support Agency (LCSA). Also the form to be used by the LCSA to document a verbal request for complaint resolution by the complainant.		DCSS Complaint Resolution Process		Customer Service	Complaint Resolution Process
Request for Complaint Resolution Acknowledgement	Form LCR002 - Completed by the local child support agency to formally acknowledge receipt of a Request for Complaint Resolution and provide information regarding the complaint resolution process to the complainant.		DCSS Complaint Resolution Process		Customer Service	Complaint Resolution Process
Request for State Hearing	Form SH001 - That may be used by a complainant to request a hearing by an administrative law judge from the State Hearing Office, if the complainant has received a Notice of Complaint Resolution or Notice of Complaint Transfer and is not satisfied with the action taken, or the LCSA has failed to take action on the complaint within the mandatory time frame to respond.		DCSS Complaint Resolution Process		Customer Service	Complaint Resolution Process, State Hearing
Request to Enter Default	A judicial council form filed with the Court advising that more than 30 days have passed since the summons and complaint were served on the defendant, he or she has not filed an answer or other responsive pleading, he or she is not in the military and requesting that the Court permit entry of the defendant's default and judgment.		DCSS Legal		Legal	Default, Default Judgment
Rescind	To abrogate or cancel a contract putting the parties in the same position they would have been in had there been no contract. Rescission can occur in one of two ways: either a contract can be set aside (rescinded) because of some defect in its formation (such as misrepresentation, duress or undue influence) or it can be set aside by agreement by the parties, for example if they reach a new agreement.		Duhaime's Law Dictionary		Legal	
Reserved Jurisdiction	A ruling by the court that it retains jurisdiction over a particular issue (e.g. child support).		DCSS Legal		Legal	
Respondent	The party answering a petition or motion.		OCSE glossary		Legal	

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	Term	Definition	Acronym	Source	Cross Reference	Category	See Also
R	Responding Jurisdiction	The court or administrative agency with jurisdiction over a non-custodial parent or child support order on which an initiating State has requested action.		OCSE glossary		Interstate	Initiating Jurisdiction
	Responding State	A state in which a proceeding to establish, enforce, or modify a support order, or to determine paternity is filed or to which a proceeding is forwarded for filing from an initiating state.		Title 22, Division 13, Section 117083		Interstate	Initiating State
	Responding Tribunal	The court, administrative agency, or quasi-judicial entity in a responding state authorized to establish, enforce, or modify support orders, or to determine paternity.		Title 22, Division 13, Section 117085		Interstate	Initiating Tribunal
	Responsive Declaration	A legal paper filed by a respondent in response to a motion or order to show cause filed by the other party in a lawsuit.		DCSS Legal		Legal	
	Responsive Pleading	The answer or other pleading filed by a defendant in response to a complaint or a petition, in which the defendant sets out his position and sets forth his defenses.		LCSA glossary		Legal	Answer
	Restraining Order	A court order to preclude a person from doing something for a certain amount of time, usually until a court hearing is held.		www.courtinfo.ca.gov		Legal	Injunctive Orders, Temporary Restraining Order
	Retroactive Child Support	Child support that is ordered to be paid commencing with a date in the past.		LCSA glossary			Nunc pro Tunc
	Return Receipt				Certified Mail Return Receipt		
	Returned Warrant	A child support payment mailed to the custodial party or a refund or child support payment returned to the noncustodial parent by the local child support agency, that was returned to the LCSA by the post office as undeliverable.		LCSA glossary		Financial	
	Review and Adjustment	Process in which current financial information is obtained from both parties in a child support case and evaluated to decide if a support order needs to be adjusted.		OCSE glossary		Case Management	Modification
S	Revised Uniform Reciprocal Enforcement of Support Act	Revised URESA law that sets forth reciprocal laws concerning the enforcement of child support between States.	RURES A	OCSE glossary		Interstate	Uniform Reciprocal Enforcement of Support Act; Uniform Interstate Family Support Act
	Safeguard Activity Report	Describes procedures established and utilized by agencies receiving Federal tax information to ensure that the information remains confidential		LCSA glossary		Case Management	

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Term	Definition	Acronym	Source	Cross Reference	Category	See Also
S Sanction	1) To ratify or to approve. 2) To punish. 3) To authorize a reduction of 25% of the Welfare cash grant for not cooperating with the local child support office.		1) Duhaimes Law Dictionary 2) LCSA glossary		Case Management	Non-Cooperation
Satisfaction of Judgment	A Judicial Council form used to indicate that the money owed by the obligor pursuant to a court order or judgment has been satisfied.		DCSS Legal		Case Management	
Satisfaction of Matured Installments	To pay all required monthly installment payments to date in full with current support still at issue.		LCSA glossary		Case Management	
Seasonal	A time characterized by a particular circumstance or feature		www.merriam-webster.com		General	
Secured Debt	Debt for which property was pledged as security for the satisfaction of the debt. Note: Debt that is secured has a higher priority in bankruptcy. These types of debts include mortgages, liens on property (such as lien holders for vehicles or judgment lien creditors with recorded abstracts of support judgments). To be effective, the lien must be recorded with the appropriate agency (county recorder, DMV, secretary of state, or other agency) prior to the filing of the bankruptcy.		Legal		Financial	
Seek Work Order				Work Search Order		
Seizure	The taking of an object from its possessor or custodian by a law enforcement officer.		LCSA glossary		Case Management	
Senate Bill	Proposed legislation authored by a State Senator and introduced in the State Senate.		DCSS Legal		General	
Serve	To deliver notice of a court proceeding or a court order to the other party or other person affected by it.		LCSA glossary		Legal	
Service by Publication	Service of process accomplished by publishing a notice in a newspaper or by posting on a bulletin board of a courthouse or other public facility, after a court determines that other means of service are impractical or have been unsuccessful. This procedure is not legal in every State. Per CCP 763.010 this procedure is legal in California		OCSE glossary		Legal	Service of Process
Service Instructions	Information provided to a process server, including the name and physical description of the party to be served, the party's address and telephone number, a list of the documents to be served, any additional special instructions and the name and telephone number of the person and agency requesting service.		LCSA glossary		Legal	Process Server, Service of Process

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Term	Definition	Acronym	Source	Cross Reference	Category	See Also
S Service of Process	The delivery of a writ, summons, or other process, to a party for the purpose of obtaining jurisdiction over that party.		DCSS Legal		Legal	
Set Aside				vacate		
Show Cause	A court order directing a person to appear and bring forth any evidence as to why the remedies stated in the requested order should not be confirmed or executed by the court. A show cause order is usually based on a motion and affidavit asking for relief.		DCSS Legal		Legal	Order to Show Cause
Single Aid Status Case	All of the children in the family receiving Title IV-D services from a local child support agency have the same public assistance status, and are either currently receiving public assistance, formerly received public assistance, or never received public assistance.		Title 22, Division 13, Section 119081 (Proposed)		Financial	Mixed Aid Status Case
Single State Financial Institution Data Match	Process by which delinquent child support obligors are matched with accounts held in Financial Institutions (FI) doing business in only one State.		LCSA glossary		Case Management	Financial Institution Data Match, Multistate Financial Institution Data Match
Skiptrace	Using various resources to find an individual's current address and /or other information, including financial information.		LCSA glossary		Case Management	Locate
Social Security Act	A federal statute providing for the establishment of a nation-wide federal and state system of old age assistance, old age and survivors' insurance benefits, and unemployment insurance or compensation, plus some incidental benefits.		DCSS Legal		General	
Social Security Administration	The federal office where people can apply for a Social Security number and apply for benefits paid under the social security act.	SSA	DCSS Legal		General	
Social Security Benefits (earned)	Earned benefits paid by Social Security through taxes, such as: retirement, disability, family benefits, survivors and Medicare.		DCSS Legal		General	
Social Security Disability Insurance	Benefits paid to qualified workers at any age who have enough Social Security credits and who have a severe physical or mental impairment that is expected to prevent them from doing "substantial" work for a year or more or who have a condition that is expected to result in death.	SSDI	DCSS Legal		General	

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Child Support Program Glossary ¹

Term	Definition	Acronym	Source	Cross Reference	Category	See Also
S Social Security Income	Income when a person retires or become disabled, or the family's only income when a person dies, based upon a percentage of earnings averaged over most of a person's working lifetime.		www.ssa.gov		General	
Social Security Number	A unique nine-digit number assigned to all qualified persons in the United States who have made a request to the Social Security Administration.	SSN	LCSA glossary		General	
Social Security Supplemental Income				Supplemental Security Income		
Social Worker	Someone employed to provide services intended to advance the social conditions of a community, and especially of the disadvantaged, such as psychological counseling, guidance, and assistance, especially in the form of social services (may also be known as caseworker, welfare worker, etc.).		www.Dictionary.com		General	Eligibility Worker, Welfare Worker
Soldiers' and Sailors' Civil Relief Act of 1940	A federal statute providing for a stay of an action or proceeding in any court in which a person in military service is involved as a party, either on the court's own motion or upon application by a military party or some person on his/her behalf, unless in the opinion of the court the military party's ability to participate in the action or proceeding is not materially affected by reason of his/her military service.		DCSS Legal		Case Management	
Split Custody	Two or more children from the same parents are in the legal and or physical custody of different people.		LCSA glossary		Case Management	Custody
Spousal Support	A legally enforceable obligation assessed against an individual for the support of a spouse or former spouse who is living with a child or children for whom the individual also owes support.		Title 22, Division 13, Section 110609		Case Management	
Spousal Support Order	An order for the payment of spousal support to a spouse or former spouse of the obligor.		Title 22, Division 13, Section 110610		General	Spousal Support
Standardized Data Elements	Data elements that must be included in each child support case record that is transmitted to the Federal Case Registry (FCR).		OCSE glossary		Case Management	

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Child Support Program Glossary ¹

Term	Definition	Acronym	Source	Cross Reference	Category	See Also
S State	A state of the United States, the District of Columbia, Puerto Rico, the United States Virgin Islands, or any territory or insular possession subject to the jurisdiction of the United States. The term "State" also includes both of the following: (a) an Indian tribe, including a Native Alaskan Village as defined in 42 United States Code, Section 619. (b) A foreign jurisdiction that has enacted a law or established procedures for issuance and enforcement of support orders which are substantially similar to the procedures under the Uniform Interstate Family Support Act specified in Chapter 6, of Part 5, of Division 9 (commencing with Section 4900) of the Family Code.		Title 22, Division 13, Section 117089		Interstate	
State Case Registry	A database maintained by each State that contains information on all individuals in all IV-D cases and all non IV-D orders established or modified after October 1, 1998. Among the data included in the SCR is the State's numerical FIPS code, the State's identification number (which must be unique to the case), the case type (IV-D vs. Non IV-D), locate information on persons listed in the case, in addition to other information.	SCR	OCSE glossary		Case Management	Federal Case Registry; IV-D Case; Non IV-D Order
State Directory of New Hires	A database maintained by each state that contains information regarding employees who are newly hired in the respective state.	SDNH	Title 22, Division 13, Section 110615		General	National Directory of New Hires; New Hire Reporting
State Disability Insurance	A state-mandated insurance plan, administered by the EDD, funded through employee payroll deductions to provide short-term, partial wage replacement benefits to eligible workers who suffer a loss of wages when they are unable to work due to a non-work related illness or injury or a medically disabling condition from pregnancy or childbirth.	SDI	DCSS Legal		Case Management	Disability Insurance Benefit
State Disbursement Unit	The single site in each State where all child support payments are processed. Upon implementation of centralized collections, each state will designate its State Disbursement Unit, or SDU, to which all withheld child support payments must be sent for processing.	SDU	OCSE glossary		CCSAS	California Child Support Automation System
State Employer Identification Number	An identification number unique to each employer.	SEIN	DCSS Legal			

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Child Support Program Glossary ¹

Term	Definition	Acronym	Source	Cross Reference	Category	See Also
S State Employment Security Agency	Agencies in each State that process unemployment insurance claims. They are also repositories of quarterly wage data, information on all employees submitted by employers, which they submit to the National Directory of New Hires (NDNH) along with the unemployment insurance claim data. In some States, the SESA also operates the State Directory of New Hires (SDNH), which contains data submitted by employers on newly hired employees. Data submitted to the NDNH is then compared against child support order information contained in the Federal Case Registry (FCR) for possible enforcement of child support obligations by wage garnishment.	SESA	OCSE glossary		Case Management	Unemployment Insurance Claim Data; Quarterly Wage Data; New Hire Data
State Hearing	An administrative hearing mandated by state law whereby a complainant may obtain an impartial review of a Local Child Support Agency or Franchise Tax Board action or inaction regarding a child support case.		Title 22, Division 13, Section 110618		General	Complaint Resolution Process
State Hearing Office	The division that conducts state hearings in the office or agency designated by the Department to carry out state hearings.		Title 22, Division 13, Section 120005		Customer Service	Complaint Resolution Process
State Hearing Representative	A person assigned by a Local Child Support Agency to present the position of the local agency at the State Hearing, question witnesses, including the complainant or complainant's representative, respond to questions, make case records available as appropriate and enter into binding agreements on behalf of the LCSA during the hearing.		Complaint Resolution Procedures		Customer Service	Complaint Resolution Process
State Identification Card Number	The number that appears on a photo identification card issued by the State Department of Motor Vehicles. In California, the DMV issues ID cards to persons of any age. The ID card is similar to a driver license, but is used for identification purposes only.		www.dmv.ca.gov		General	
State Licensing Match System	System which matches delinquent child support obligors with state-issued licenses when applying for or renewing a state license.	SLMS	LCSA glossary		Case Management	
State Medical Information Form				DHS 6110		

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Child Support Program Glossary ¹

Term	Definition	Acronym	Source	Cross Reference	Category	See Also
S State Parent Locator Service	A unit within each state Child Support Enforcement Agency which is used to locate non-custodial parents to establish paternity, and to establish and enforce child support obligations, visitation, and custody orders. This unit operates the State Case Registry (SCR), and in most States, the State Directory of New Hires (SDNH). (In some States the SDNH is operated by the State Employment Security Agency or SESA.)	SPLS	DCSS Legal		Case Management	California Parent Locator Service, Federal Parent Locator Service
State Supplementary Program	A State program administered by the Social Security Administration (SSA) which augments Supplemental Security Income and provides benefits for the elderly, disabled and blind.		DCSS Legal		Case Management	Supplemental Security Income
State Unemployment Insurance	A federal-state program, administered by the Employment Development Department (EDD) financed through employer contributions to provide partial wage replacement to eligible unemployed workers while they conduct an active search for new work.	SUI	DCSS Legal		Case Management	Unemployment Insurance, Unemployment Insurance Benefits, Intercept
State/County Plan of Cooperation	The cooperative agreement between the Department and each local child support agency that identifies the local child support agency's roles and responsibilities for establishing paternity, establishing, modifying, and enforcing child support, spousal support, and medical support, or otherwise carrying out the requirements of Title IV-D.		Title 22, Division 13, Section 110625		General	
Statewide Utility Match System	A locate tool where delinquent obligors are matched against utility records.	SUMS	LCSA glossary		Case Management	
Statute of Limitations	The period during which an action or proceeding must be commenced or be forever barred.		DCSS Legal		Legal	
Stay	An order by a court which suspends all or some of the proceedings in a case.		LCSA glossary		Legal	
Stay of Assignment	An order by a court which temporarily stops the enforcement of either a wage or medical assignment until the happening of a contingency or further court order regarding the stay.		DCSS Legal		Legal	
Stipulation	A written agreement between the parties that certain facts are true and will not be contested for the purposes of a particular lawsuit.		LCSA glossary		Legal	Stipulation and Order

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Child Support Program Glossary ¹

Term	Definition	Acronym	Source	Cross Reference	Category	See Also
S Stipulation and Order	An agreement relating to a pending court proceeding between parties or their attorneys, entered with or without a court appearance, that is submitted to the Court for approval and with the Court's signature becomes a court order.		www.courtinfo.ca.gov		Legal	Stipulation
Subject Matter Jurisdiction	A tribunal's authority to hear and determine the issues presented in a case brought before it.		Title 22, Division 13, Section 117091		Interstate	Jurisdiction
Subordination of Lien	The act by which a lienholder agrees to place his lien in a lower priority for payment than another claim or lien.		DCSS Legal		Enforcement	Abstract of Support Judgment
Subpoena	An order issued by a court compelling a witness to appear at a judicial proceeding and/or direct the witness to bring documentary evidence to the court.		DCSS Legal		Legal	Subpoena Duces Tecum
Subpoena Duces Tecum	An order compelling a witness to produce specific documents or tangibles under his or her control, to a trial or deposition.		DCSS Legal		Legal	Subpoena
Subrogate	To place one in the legal position of another and to assume their rights or claims.		DCSS Legal		Legal	
Substantial Compliance				Compliance		
Substituted Service	Service of process by leaving legal documents with an adult in the recipient's home or with the recipient's manager at work. Followed with service by mail to the recipient at the same address.		DCSS Legal		Case Management	Service of Process
Substitution of Attorney	A document in which the party to a lawsuit states that his/her attorney of record is being substituted for by another attorney or by the party acting for himself/herself (in propria persona).		www.law.com		Legal	In Propria Persona
Substitution of Payee	A court action that changes to whom an order is payable.		LCSA glossary		Legal	Notice Regarding Payment of Support
Sum Certain	A specific amount of money, such as \$100.00 per month; usually refers to the amount of debtor obligation.		LCSA glossary		Case Management	
Summons	A notice to a defendant that an action against him or her has been commenced in the court issuing the summons and that a judgment will be taken against him or her if the complaint is not answered within a certain time.		OCSE glossary		Legal	

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Child Support Program Glossary ¹

Term	Definition	Acronym	Source	Cross Reference	Category	See Also
S Summons and Complaint	A mandatory Judicial Council form used to notify a defendant that a lawsuit has been filed against him or her, and that a judgment will be taken against the defendant as requested by the plaintiff if no answer is filed and the defendant fails to appear within the time allowed by law (generally 30 days in California).		LCSA glossary		Legal	Default, Summons, Proposed Judgment
Superior Court	The trial court in each county of the State of California which hears all adoption, family law, juvenile, criminal, civil, small claims, and probate cases.		www.courtinfo.ca.gov		General	
Supersede	To replace, supplant.		DCSS Legal		Legal	
Supplemental Security Income	A Federal income supplement program funded by general tax revenues designed to help aged, blind, and disabled people, who have little or no income.	SSI	www.ssa.gov		General	
Supplemental Summons and Complaint	A mandatory Judicial Council form filed subsequent to the first Summons and Complaint which sets forth material facts which occurred or became known after an original complaint was filed.		DCSS Legal		Legal	Summons and Complaint
Support	An amount owing for the maintenance of a person or persons. Support includes: child support, as defined in Section 110129; family support, as defined in Section 119037; medical support, as defined in Section 110431; and spousal support as defined in Section 110609. "Support" may also mean child care costs, uninsured health care costs, educational costs, or travel expenses for visitation pursuant to Section 4062 of the Family Code.		Title 22, Division 13, Section 119085 (Proposed)		General	Child Support, Family Support, Medical Support, Spousal Support
Support Calculation Programs	Computer software programs designed to calculate the guideline amount of child support a non-custodial parent will be obligated to pay based upon both parents' income and expense information.		www.Californiadivorcelaw.net		Case Management	
Support Order	A judgment, decree, or order, whether temporary, final, or subject to modification, issued by a court or an administrative agency of a competent jurisdiction, for the support and maintenance of a child. This includes a child who has attained the age of majority under the law of the issuing State, or of the parent with whom the child is living. Support orders can incorporate the provision of monetary support, health care, payment of arrearages, or reimbursement of costs and fees, interest and penalties, and other forms of relief.		OCSE glossary		Legal	Obligation; Non-custodial Parent, Obligor, Child Support Order

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Term	Definition	Acronym	Source	Cross Reference	Category	See Also
S Support Rights	Every parent who does not reside with a child has a responsibility to provide monetary support. Child, spousal and medical support amounts are established in court orders. As a condition of receiving public assistance, a custodial party assigns their right to collect unpaid support, owed up to the time welfare is discontinued, to the county which provides the public assistance.		LCSA glossary		General	
Surety	A person who make himself or herself responsible for an obligation owed by another person upon the occurrence of a specified contingency.		DCSS Legal		General	
Suspend	To stop temporarily as of an effective date.		DCSS Legal		Legal	
Suspense	An account into which payments are deposited until the payer is identified or the proper account to be credited is determined.		LCSA glossary		Financial	Payment Hold
Sworn Statement	A statement or declaration made under oath that it is true to the best of the declarant's knowledge and belief.		DCSS Legal		Legal	Penalty of Perjury
T TANF	"Temporary Assistance to Needy Families" or TANF, also known as CalWORKS, means the program funded under Title IV-A of the Social Security Act that provides temporary public assistance to a needy family, that was formerly know as the Aid to Families with Dependent Children program that terminated October 1, 1996.		Title 22, Division 13, Section 110654 (Proposed)		General	Temporary Assistance to Needy Families
Tax Refund Intercept				Intercept		
Tax Refund Offset Notice	A notice sent to the Obligor by the IRS or FTB advising him/her that part or all of his/her tax refund was intercepted to pay past due child support.		LCSA glossary		Enforcement	Federal Tax Refund Offset Program, Intercept
Temporarily Assigned Arrearages	Unpaid support that accrues after October 1, 1998, and before the period a family receives public assistance which becomes assigned when the family receives public assistance. Temporarily assigned arrearages also means any unassigned arrearages that accrued before October 1, 1998, for a family who began receiving public assistance after October 1, 1998.		Title 22, Division 13, Section 119088 (Proposed)		Financial	
Temporary Assistance to Needy Families	Time-limited public assistance payments made to families based on financial need under Title IV-A of the Social Security Act. TANF replaced Aid to Families with Dependent Children (AFDC-- otherwise known as welfare) when the Personal Responsibility and Work Opportunity Reconciliation Act (PRWORA) was signed into law in 1996.	TANF	OCSE glossary		General	TANF, Aid to Families with Dependent Children, Personal Responsibility and Work Opportunity Reconciliation Act

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Term	Definition	Acronym	Source	Cross Reference	Category	See Also
T Temporary Restraining Order	A court order for an injunction forbidding a defendant or third party from taking certain actions or doing specified things until there is a court hearing addressing the matter. In Family Law, these are commonly used as a restraint on conduct to prevent any party from disposing of assets.	TRO	LCSA glossary		Legal	Injunctive Orders, Restraining Order
Temporary Support Order	An interim order for the obligor to pay support while the court case is pending entry of a final judgment.	TSO	LCSA glossary		Legal	
Termination of Parental Rights	A proceeding that declares a minor child free from the care and control of either or both parents and that terminates all parental rights and responsibilities with regard to the child.		FC 7802, 7803		Legal	Relinquishment of Parental Rights
Third Party Liability	A category under which the state pays the difference between the amount of a medical bill and the amount the insurance company has paid. This occurs only when a public assistance recipient has medical insurance in addition to coverage provided by the public assistance program.		OCSE glossary		General	
Till Tap	A writ of execution in which the sheriff is instructed to seize funds in the cash register or cash drawer or obligor's business.		LCSA glossary		Case Management	Writ of Execution
Timeframes	The amount of time allowed under statute or regulation for the performance of specified actions in a child support case. (Also known as timelines).		LCSA glossary		General	Compliance, Regulations
Title	Evidence of a right of possession of land or other property, in the form of a written instrument. For real property, this is usually in the form of a deed of trust.		LCSA glossary		Case Management	Preliminary Title Report
Title IV-A	"Title IV-A" means Title IV of the federal Social Security Act, Part A, Block Grants to States for Temporary Assistance for Needy Families, codified at 42 U.S.C., Section 601, et seq.	IV-A	Title 22, Division 13, Section 110658		General	IV-A Agency, IV-A Case
Title IV-B	"Title IV-B" means Title IV of the federal Social Security Act, Part B, Child and Family Services, codified at 42, U.S.C., Section 620 et seq.		Title 22, Division 13, Section 110659		General	
Title IV-D	"Title IV-D" means Title IV of the federal Social Security Act, Part D, Child Support and Establishment of Paternity, codified at 42, U.S.C., Section 651, et seq.	IV-D	Title 22, Division 13, Section 110660		General	IV-D Agency, IV-D Case
Title IV-E	"Title IV-E" means Title IV of the federal Social Security Act, Part E, Federal Payments for Foster Care and Adoption Assistance, codified at 42, U.S.C., Section 670 et seq.	IV-E	Title 22, Division 13, Section 110661		General	IV-E Case, Foster Care

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Term	Definition	Acronym	Source	Cross Reference	Category	See Also
T Title Search				Abstract of Title		
Total Aid Paid	Total amount of aid (assistance grant) paid to a family assistance unit.		LCSA glossary		Financial	Unreimbursed Assistance Pool
Transmittal UIFSA				UIFSA Transmittal		
Transmittal, Interstate Child Support Enforcement				UIFSA Transmittal		
Trial	The judicial hearing and determination of issues of fact and law, in accordance with prescribed legal procedures, in order to reach a disposition. Can be either (1) a bench trial, i.e., a court trial that is heard and decided by a judge, or (2) a jury trial, i.e. a trial that is heard and decided by a jury, which usually consists of 12 people.		LCSA glossary		Legal	
Tribunal	A court, administrative agency, or quasi-judicial entity authorized to establish, enforce, or modify support orders or to determine parentage.		Title 22, Division 13, Section 117094		Interstate	
Trust Beneficiary	"Beneficiary" means a person to whom a donative transfer of property is made or that person's successor in interest, and: (a) As it relates to the intestate estate of a decedent, means an heir. (b) As it relates to the testate estate of a decedent, means a devisee. (c) As it relates to a trust, means a person who has any present or future interest, vested or contingent. (d) As it relates to a charitable trust, includes any person entitled to enforce the trust.		Probate Code Secs. 24, 15301(b), 15305; CCP §709.010		Case Management	
Trustee	A third party appointed by the bankruptcy court, who administers and supervises the assets and debts of the debtor's estate during a bankruptcy proceeding.		US Code Chapter 11, Section 704		Bankruptcy	Bankruptcy Trustee
Two-State Action	An action under the Uniform Interstate Family Support Act (UIFSA) when a state does not have long arm jurisdiction (i.e., cannot legally claim personal jurisdiction over a non-custodial parent who lives in another State).		DCSS Legal		Interstate	Initiating Jurisdiction; Uniform Interstate Family Support Act
Two-State Case				Two-State Action		
U UIFSA Initiating State	In an interstate case, the state where the custodial party and the children live and which sends a request for action to another state.		DCSS Legal		Interstate	Uniform Interstate Family Support Act; Initiating Jurisdiction; Responding Jurisdiction

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Term	Definition	Acronym	Source	Cross Reference	Category	See Also
U UIFSA Responding State	In an interstate case, the state where the non-custodial parent lives and which has jurisdiction over a non-custodial parent or child support order that has received a request for support services from a UIFSA initiating state.		DCSS Legal		Interstate	
UIFSA Transmittal	A mandatory federal form used for communication between the initiating and responding states in an interstate child support case.		OCSE Glossary		Interstate	
Unassigned During Assistance Arrearages	Unpaid support in former public assistance cases that accrued while the family was receiving public assistance which exceeds the total unreimbursed assistance pool.	UDA	Title 22, Division 13, Section 119091 (Proposed)		Financial	
Unassigned Pre-Assistance Arrearages	Unpaid support in former assistance cases that accrued before a family was receiving public assistance and which exceed the total unreimbursed assistance pool.		Title 22, Division 13, Section 119093 (Proposed)		Financial	
Unborn	An unborn child		LCSA Glossary		Case Management	
Unclaimed Funds	A support payment that cannot be disbursed because the identity of the payer is unknown, or the address of the payee is unknown.		OCSE glossary		Financial	Suspense
Undistributed Collections	Collections received by the local child support agency that cannot be distributed for a variety of reasons, including, but not limited to, receipts from unknown payers or where the payer cannot be identified, and receipts in cases where the address of the payee is unknown.		LCSA glossary		Financial	Suspense
Unemployment Insurance				State Unemployment Insurance		
Unemployment Insurance Benefit Intercept				Intercept		
Unemployment Insurance Benefits	The monetary payments to an unemployed individual which includes unemployment compensation benefits, federal-state extended benefits, or extended duration benefits, or all of them.	UIB	CA Unemployment Insurance Code §128		Enforcement	Unemployment Insurance
Unemployment Insurance Claim Data	Data on unemployment insurance and applicants/claimants submitted by State Employment Security Agencies (SESAs) on a quarterly basis to the National Directory of New Hires (NDNH) including the employee's name, address, Social Security Number (SSN), the benefit amount, and reporting period.		OCSE glossary		Enforcement	State Employment Security Agency; National Directory of New Hires

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U Uniform Interstate Family Support Act	Laws enacted at the State level to provide mechanisms for establishing and enforcing child support obligations in interstate cases (when a non-custodial parent lives in a different State than his/her child and the custodial party). The provisions of UIFSA supercede those of URESA, although some URESA provisions may remain in effect in some States.	UIFSA	DCSS Legal		Interstate	Direct Income Withholding, IV-D
Uniform Parentage Act	That part of the Family Code known as Division 12, part 3, which includes Family Code Sections 7600 to 7730, and addresses the establishment of the parent and child relationship.		LCSA glossary		Case Management	
Uniform Reciprocal Enforcement of Support Act	Law first promulgated in 1950 which provides a mechanism for establishing, enforcing, and modifying support obligations in interstate cases and which has now been superceded by the Uniform Interstate Family Support Act (UIFSA).	URES A	OCSE Glossary		Interstate	Uniform Interstate Family Support Act
United States Code	A compilation of federal laws.		DCSS Legal		General	
Universal Data Form	The form sent by LCSA's to the credit reporting agencies for reporting or updating account information of the NCP.		LCSA glossary		General	
Unreimbursed Assistance Pool	The cumulative amount of public assistance paid to a family receiving public assistance under the CalWORKS, Foster Care, or KinGAP programs which has not been repaid by the recoupment of collections for assigned current support or arrearages.	UAP	Title 22, Division 13, Section 119095 (Proposed)		Financial	Total Aid Paid, Recoupment of Aid Paid
Unreimbursed Public Assistance	Money paid in the form of public assistance (for example, TANF or older AFDC expenditures) which has not yet been recovered from the non-custodial parent (NCP).	UPA	OCSE glossary		Enforcement	
Unsecured Assets	Assets which are owned "free and clear," in which no one has a security interest		LCSA glossary		Case Management	
Unsecured Debt	Debt for which property or other security was not pledged for the satisfaction of the debt.		Legal		Financial	
V Vacate	To cancel, annul, or set aside, as in to set aside a judgment.		DCSS Legal		Legal	
Venue	The county or district where an action may be filed		LCSA glossary		Legal	Change of Venue
Verification	In a legal document, a verification is a statement under penalty of perjury that the statements in the document are true to the best of the declarant's knowledge and belief.		DCSS Legal		General	Penalty of Perjury

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Term	Definition	Acronym	Source	Cross Reference	Category	See Also
V Visitation	The right of a non-custodial parent to visit and/or spend time with his/her children following the parents' separation or dissolution of marriage.		LCSA glossary		Case Management	Custody
Vital Statistics	Information at state or county departments regarding births, deaths, marriages, or dissolution of marriages.		LCSA glossary		Case Management	Office of Vital Records
Vocational Rehabilitation Maintenance Allowance	Workers' Compensation benefit payment, made to a qualified injured worker who is unable to return to his/her former type of work, to subsidize mileage and costs of participating in a re-training program and provide partial wage replacement to the injured worker.		DCSS Legal		Enforcement	Workers Compensation
Voluntary Acknowledgement of Paternity	A voluntary statement or acknowledgment signed by an unmarried mother and putative father that provides, when filed with the Department of Child Support Services, that a man is the father of a minor child.		DCSS Legal		Case Management	Acknowledgment of Parentage, Declaration of Paternity
Voluntary Payments	Support payments received from the noncustodial parent in Title IV-D cases where there is no court ordered obligation.		Title 22, Division 13, Section 119097 (Proposed)		Financial	
W W-2 Form	A wage and tax statement that shows the names of the employer and employee, the wages that were paid to the employee, and the taxes that were withheld from the wages for the year.		LCSA glossary		Case Management	
Wage Assignment				Order/Notice to Withhold Income for Child Support		
Wage Attachment				Income Withholding		
Wage Withholding				Income Withholding		
Waiver	The voluntary and intentional relinquishment of a known and existing right, with full knowledge of the consequences.		LCSA glossary		Legal	
Ward of the Court	A minor who is being supervised by the juvenile court after a finding that he/she has violated any state or federal law, or any city or county ordinance, other than for a curfew based on age.		W&I 602		Legal	Foster Care
Warrant	1) A voucher authorizing payment of money; an order similar to a bank check, commonly used by government agencies. 2) A writ issued by a judicial officer for the arrest of a person or for the search of property.		LCSA glossary; DCSS Legal		General	Bench Warrant

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Term	Definition	Acronym	Source	Cross Reference	Category	See Also
W Welfare	Aid or assistance payments granted to a family, caretaker or agency.		LCSA Glossary		General	Aid, Public Assistance, Temporary Assistance to Needy Families, California Work Opportunities & Responsibilities to Kids
Welfare and Institutions Code	Codified area of state law that addresses welfare and institutions providing social services.	W&I	LCSA Glossary		General	
Welfare Department	Generally, the office providing IV-A, IV-B, and IV-E services in each county.		LCSA Glossary		General	California Health and Human Services Agency
Welfare Fraud	A criminal act of willful non-compliance with statutory regulations pertaining to recipients of public assistance; or providing misinformation on required welfare eligibility forms which result in improper receipt of public assistance payments.		LCSA glossary		General	Fraud
Welfare Referral	A referral of CalWORKS, Foster Care, or Medically Needy Only recipient to the LCSA from the county welfare department.		Title 22, Division 13, Section 112100(e)		Case Management	
Welfare Reform				Personal Responsibility and Work Opportunity Reconciliation Act of 1996		
Welfare Worker				County Welfare Worker		
With Prejudice	In law, a complaint dismissed "with prejudice" cannot be refiled.		LCSA glossary		Legal	Dismissal
Without Prejudice	In law, a complaint dismissed "without prejudice" can be refiled at a later date.		LCSA glossary		Legal	Dismissal
Work Search Order	A court order that directs the non-custodial parent to submit to the Local Child Support Agency or to the court, every two weeks, or other frequency deemed by the court, a list of at least five different places the NCP has applied for employment. May also be known as "seek work order" or "job search order".		FC 4505		Enforcement	

¹ The glossary provides a common program language which should help Local Child Support Agencies provide standardized, uniform and consistent services statewide.

Child Support Program Glossary ¹

Term	Definition	Acronym	Source	Cross Reference	Category	See Also
W Workers' Compensation	A state insurance program financed through employer contributions to provide compensation to eligible workers who are unable to work due to a work-related injury.		www.dir.ca.gov		Enforcement	
Workers' Compensation Appeals Board	The board that renders decisions on claims filed by injured workers.	WCAB	LCSS glossary		Enforcement	
Workers' Compensation Lien	A lien filed with the Worker's Compensation Appeals Board (WCAB) to seize the money paid to the injured worker for unpaid child or spousal support that accrued since the date of an obligor's injury.		DCSS Legal		Enforcement	
Writ	A court order commanding that a specific action be taken.		www.courtinfo.ca.gov		Legal	
Writ of Attachment	A court order issued at the commencement of a suit to attach specified property for the satisfaction of a judgment if and when a judgment is entered in favor of the plaintiff.		DCSS Legal		Legal	
Writ of Execution	An order issued by a court directing that certain assets be seized for the enforcement of a money judgment.		LCSS glossary		Legal	
Writ Payment				Payment Source		

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